



Daily Report

East Asia

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Daily Report

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Hawke Asks Japan, ROK To Oppose Trade Subsidies
*BK1604102891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0716 GMT
16 Apr 91*

[Text] Canberra, April 16 (AFP)—Prime Minister Bob Hawke again appealed to Japan and South Korea late Monday to join Australia in opposing trade subsidies by major agricultural exporters.

Addressing a conference on the future of Asian and Pacific economies, Mr. Hawke said farm subsidies by the richest nations "block development and trade expansion in developing countries and in primary exporting countries like Australia."

Agricultural sectors in the European Community (EC) and to a lesser extent in the United States and Japan were "bloated" by subsidies totalling 300 billion dollars a year, he said.

Australia was "entitled ... to expect that economically developed countries of our own region, such as Japan and Korea, will examine their own practices in agricultural protection and join with us in pressing the EC and the United States ... to cease their export subsidies and wind back import restrictions."

The purpose of the conference was to alert Australians to the evolution of the strongest economies in Asia, and Mr.

Hawke went to some length to defend his government's recent decision to phase out protective tariffs in Australia.

Australian industry had become less inventive, managers had lost their initiative, and the efficiency of export sectors had dwindled behind the walls of protection, he said.

He recalled a major speech to parliament on March 12 in which he promised to reduce most tariffs on manufactures to five per cent by 1996, and to cut others by the end of the century.

Mr. Hawke praised some Asian countries, notably Japan, South Korea and Indonesia.

Tokyo had agreed to remove quotas from beef imports, and had "also taken the less glamorous but equally important steps of addressing inadequacies in its anti-trust laws and regulations inhibiting new entry of business," he said.

"In Korea there has been significant reform of financial markets and structural reforms in the ownership and management of large corporate groups."

Steps taken by Jakarta included "significantly" cutting restrictions on foreign investment projects, liberalising the financial sector and reducing maritime transport regulations, Mr. Hawke said.

Japan**Gorbachev Visit Continues****'Full Text' of Japan-USSR Communiqué**

OW1804175191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1736 GMT
18 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—The following is the full text of the Japan-Soviet joint communiqué issued Thursday as translated by the Foreign Press Center.

Japan-U.S.S.R. Joint Communiqué

1. President M.S. Gorbachev of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics paid an official visit to Japan from April 16 through April 19, 1991, at the invitation of the Government of Japan. President M.S. Gorbachev of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs A.A. Bessmertnykh of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and other government officials.

2. President M.S. Gorbachev of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Mrs. Gorbachev had an audience with their imperial highnesses the emperor and the empress of Japan on April 16.

3. President M.S. Gorbachev of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics had frank and constructive discussions with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu of Japan on issues between Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, including the negotiations for the conclusion of a peace treaty, and on important international issues of mutual interest. President M.S. Gorbachev of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics invited Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu of Japan to pay an official visit to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which invitation was gratefully accepted. The details of the visit are to be arranged through diplomatic channels.

4. Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu of Japan and President M.S. Gorbachev of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics held an in-depth and thorough discussion of the total range of issues relating to the drafting and conclusion of a peace treaty between Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, including the issue of territorial demarcation, with consideration to the two sides' positions on the attribution of the Habomai Islands, Shikotan, Kunashiri, and Etorofu.

In the joint work thus far, and especially in the negotiations at the highest level, the series of conceptual approaches was confirmed, meaning that the peace treaty should be the document marking the final resolution of war-related issues, including the territorial issue, that it should open the way for long-term Japan-U.S.S.R. relations on the basis of friendship, and that it should not infringe upon either side's security.

The Soviet side proposed that measures be taken in the near future to expand exchanges between residents of

Japan and residents of the aforementioned islands, to establish a simplified visa-free framework for visits by Japanese to these islands, to initiate joint mutually beneficial economic activities in that region, and to reduce the Soviet military forces stationed on the islands. The Japanese side indicated that it wanted to discuss these issues further.

As well as emphasizing the primary importance of accelerating work to conclude the preparations on the peace treaty, the prime minister and the president expressed their firm resolve to make constructive and vigorous efforts to this end taking advantage of all positive elements that have been built up in the bilateral negotiations in the years since Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics jointly proclaimed an end to the state of war and the restoration of diplomatic relations in 1956.

At the same time, they recognized that the development of constructive cooperation between Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, including the adjacent Russian Soviet Federal Socialist Republic, in the trade and economic, scientific and technological, and political as well as in the social activity, cultural, educational, tourism, and sports fields through free and wide-ranging exchanges between the peoples of the two countries in mutual relations in an atmosphere of good-neighborliness, mutual benefit, and trust is consistent with these ends.

5. Affirming that expanded political dialogue is a useful and effective means of enhancing Japan-U.S.S.R. relations, the two sides announced their determination to work to continue, deepen, and advance this political dialogue through regular exchanges of visits at the highest level.

6. Noting the importance of holding regular foreign ministerial consultations, as agreed in 1966, the two sides affirmed that such consultations should be held at least once a year, and more frequently if necessary.

7. The two sides affirmed that they guide their bilateral relations in accordance with the principles elucidated in Article 2 of the United Nations Charter, particularly the principles of:

I. Settling their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered.

II. Refraining in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations.

8. The two sides are in agreement that this summit meeting was extremely useful for both sides. Noting the importance of expanding, and making more active, cooperation in practical fields, the two sides have produced the following.

- Memorandum on consultations between the Governments of Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
- Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on cooperation in regard to technical support for the reforms now under way in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to shift to a market economy
- Agreement on trade and payments between Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics during the period 1991 through 1995
- Exchange of notes on trade in consumer and other goods with the Far East region of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
- Japan-U.S.S.R. joint communique on encouraging the mutual holding of exhibitions and trade fairs
- Japan-U.S.S.R. joint communique on progress in cooperation in the field of fisheries
- Exchange of notes concerning amendment of Appendix I of the Japan-U.S.S.R. aviation agreement
- Exchange of notes between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on expanding air services on the Siberian route
- Agreement on cooperation between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the field of environmental conservation
- Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on cooperation in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear power
- Memorandum on cooperation between Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to reduce the impact of the Chernobyl atomic power station accident on the health of residents of the area
- Exchange of notes approving the plans proposed for implementing the agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on cultural exchanges during the period April 1, 1991, through March 31, 1993
- Memorandum on exchanges and cooperation between Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the field of conserving important cultural properties
- Japan-U.S.S.R. joint communique on cooperation relating to the activities of the Center for Modern Japanese Studies
- Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on persons interned in prisoner of war camps

9. The two sides were in agreement on the need to further deepen and develop practical relations between the two countries in various fields, including the political, economic, trade, industrial, fisheries, science and technology, transport, environmental, cultural, and humanitarian fields, in a balanced manner and to the extent feasible on the basis of friendship and mutual benefit so as to contribute to the improvement of living standards

for the people of Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and further progress in the international community.

10. Expressing their high regard for the activities of the Japan-U.S.S.R. governmental trade and economic consultations, Japan-U.S.S.R. and U.S.S.R.-Japan committees on economic consultations and other forums, the two sides announced their readiness to promote further expansion of trade and economic relations between the two countries on the basis of mutual benefit. The two sides share the understanding that the continued promotion of perestroika in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is of significance not only for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics but for the entire world.

11. The two sides evaluated highly the cooperation between the two countries under the existing governmental agreements in the fisheries field and were agreed on the desirability of continuing constructive exchanges of views so as to further develop such cooperation on a long-term and mutually beneficial basis.

In this regard, the two sides expressed the desire to see extensive development of relations between enterprises and organizations in Japan and the Far Eastern region of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics based on market economy principles. The two sides recognized the necessity of maintaining and developing close cooperation in international deliberations for the conservation, management, reproduction, and optimal utilization of the world's biomarine resources (also in such activities of the international organizations to which both governments are parties).

12. The two sides announced their satisfaction with the activities of the committee on science and technology cooperation and the steady progress being made in cooperation in the field of science and technology between the two countries on the basis of mutual benefit and were in agreement on working to further develop such cooperation and to expand cooperation in such other fields as might be deemed necessary by the two sides.

13. The two sides announced their satisfaction that cultural exchange between the two countries has recently been becoming increasingly active and that mutual understanding between the peoples of the two countries is being continuously enhanced. The two sides also expressed their satisfaction with the steady progress being made in developing cultural exchanges between the two countries under the existing agreement and were in agreement on the importance of exchanges to further promote mutual understanding of the two countries' traditional and contemporary cultures and societies.

14. The two sides recognized that cooperation between the two countries in the humanitarian field contributes considerably to enhancing mutual trust between the two peoples and expressed their satisfaction that such cooperation is becoming increasingly active as regards visits to gravesites, the issue of persons interned in prisoner of

war camps, and the issue of Japanese permanently living in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

15. The two sides agreed that the process of improvement in the international situation is of an irreversible nature on a global scale and regional scale and should be further promoted. The two sides stressed the need to continue efforts to maintain international peace and security and the importance of attaining, in a balanced manner, the lowest levels of military forces and arms possible. In this connection, the two sides welcomed the results attained in arms control and disarmament and recognized the importance of faithful implementation and supported the attainment of early agreement in the bilateral and multilateral negotiations now under way in this field.

16. In light of the harsh lessons of the crisis in the Gulf and from the perspective of maintaining international peace and security, the two sides have a shared recognition of the need for the international community to strengthen its efforts for the nonproliferation of nuclear arms, chemical weapons, and other weapons of mass destruction and missiles, for the enhancement of transparency and openness on conventional arms transfers, and for the strengthening of self-restraint on conventional arms transfers by each country.

17. The two sides were in agreement that, given the fact that the current international order is changing rapidly with the end of Cold War structures and in light of the positions that the two sides hold and the responsibilities that they ought to fulfill in international politics and economy, it is important to achieve a complete normalization of Japan-U.S.S.R. relations and to pave the way for dramatic development of these relations and that achieving this will not only be in the two countries' own interests but will also contribute to peace and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region and worldwide.

18. The two sides have a high regard for the activities of the United Nations and other international organizations and for the important contribution that they have made to the resolution of regional conflicts, to the strengthening of mutual understanding, trust, and stability worldwide, and to the expansion of constructive cooperation and concert within the framework of the present international community. The two sides were in agreement that the United Nations has an important role to play politically, economically, and in the resolution of other international issues, including environmental issues and the fight against illegal trafficking in drugs. The two sides were in agreement in recognizing the need for the two countries to further promote their cooperation and consultations for supporting the full flowering of the United Nations' potential for peace and enhancing the role of the United Nations on global issues.

The two sides recognized that "the former enemy clauses" in the United Nations Charter have lost their meaning and, mindful of the need to strengthen the

United Nations Charter and system, agreed that appropriate ways should be sought to resolve this issue.

19. The two sides had shared awareness that the solidarity and cooperation of the international community centering on the United Nations in dealing with the crisis in the Gulf made the liberation of Kuwait possible and were in agreement that peace and stability must be restored to the region through Iraq's prompt compliance with the series of United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Recognizing that the Middle East region is extremely important to international peace, the two sides had a shared awareness that it is important that the international community as a whole, respecting the intentions and activities of the countries in the region, work in concert and cooperate actively for postwar economic reconstruction in that region to ensure peace and prosperity not only in the Middle East but worldwide.

The two sides believe that it is extremely important that, together with efforts to work for post-crisis reconstruction in the Gulf region, the international community should support efforts for the early resolution of other conflicts in the Middle East, which has become an urgent task, stressing particularly the need for a workable Middle East peace and the initiation of a meaningful peace process to that end.

20. The two sides evaluate highly the efforts being made for peace and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. In this connection, the two sides supported efforts for just and reasonable resolution of conflicts in this region through peaceful means and shared an awareness of the importance of providing constructive cooperation for the self-reliant efforts of the states of the region and of always respecting those states' own initiatives and decisions.

21. The two sides announced their grave concern for the attainment of peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and, sharing an awareness of the importance of progress in North-South dialogue for their attainment, supported the continuation of the North-South prime ministerial talks. In this connection, the Japanese side welcomed the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Korea and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Soviet side the start of discussions between Japan and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the normalization of their relations, both as contributing to the relaxation of tensions on the Korean peninsula. The two sides expressed their hope that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will promptly conclude a safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

22. The two sides touched upon the importance of the draft agreements on a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodia conflict drawn up by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and the co-chairmen of the Paris Conference on Cambodia. In this connection, Japan expressed its

appreciation for the contribution made by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council and the Soviet Union welcomed the recent efforts by Japan to encourage the Cambodian parties to accept the draft agreements on a comprehensive political settlement. The two sides were in agreement on the need to continue to endeavor for the early attainment of comprehensive peace in Cambodia.

23. The two sides were in agreement on the need to further strengthen the international trend toward relaxation of tensions and the importance of expanding the dialogue and exchanges between the two countries on a broad range of issues, including security aspects, from the perspective of promoting peace and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. The two sides expressed their high regard for the policy planning consultations held between the two countries' foreign ministries in December 1990 as a means to that end and gave their approval for further continuing these consultations.

24. The two sides had a high regard for the cooperation taking place among the countries of the Asia-Pacific region and in the appropriate economic organizations for regional prosperity in keeping with the principles of freedom and openness. In this connection, Japan welcomed the desire of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, sharing these values, to be a member of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics had a positive regard for Japanese contributions to the promotion of economic development in the region.

Gorbachev Speaks at Accords Signing Ceremony

*OW1904085491 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1506 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Speech by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev at the conclusion of the Soviet-Japanese accords and joint statement signing ceremony at the Akasaka Guest House in Tokyo—live; in Russian with passage-by-passage translation into Japanese; translated from the Russian]

[Text] Esteemed Mr. Prime Minister, esteemed ladies and gentlemen:

Today we are attending a landmark event in the history of Soviet-Japanese relations. In the final minutes of this day, representatives of the Soviet Union and Japan have sealed with their signatures a fundamentally important joint statement and a packet of agreements and documents unprecedented in their volume. We can talk about a major step on the path to new relations between our great neighboring peoples, between two world powers. We can talk about accelerating the work on a peace treaty and about expanding cooperation in the economic and other spheres. I would like to highlight the concluding document, the agreement on technical assistance to perestroika, and on cooperation in overcoming the consequences of the Chernobyl accident. I would like to express sincere gratitude to the people and Government of Japan for their noble and humanitarian position and

humane kindness in these issues. I particularly would like to mention the agreement on problems, left to us by the war, relating to the burial places of servicemen. Its implementation already has begun and today we handed over lists of Japanese prisoners of war who died on Soviet territory. May the memory of past tragedies induce us to carry on our affairs with one another in such a way that we never have to experience anything like that again. Allow me to express the hope that the new agreements and documents, by strengthening and broadening the contractual and legal basis of Soviet-Japanese relations, will give a new impetus to bilateral cooperation and will be a support in developing goodneighborliness and in increasing mutual ties between our countries. Our common task is to transfer the words set down in the agreements into the language of practical deeds. May they serve as the beginning of the great journey of a thousand li, as Eastern wisdom has it. I propose a toast to the success of this great undertaking, begun these past few days through joint efforts, and to cooperation between our governments, states, and peoples.

Kaifu Speaks at Accords Signing Ceremony

*OW1904012191 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1503 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Speech by Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu at the conclusion of the Japan-Soviet joint statement and accords signing ceremony at the Akasaka Guesthouse in Tokyo—live; Kaifu speaks in Japanese with passage-by-passage Russian translation provided by unidentified Japanese official; translated from the Japanese]

[Text] Today the Japan-Soviet joint statement and documents in 12 business sectors were signed in the presence of pertinent officials from both Japan and the Soviet Union. This gives me a great pleasure.

For the joint statement, in particular, six rounds of summit talks were held over three days and ended just a minute ago. I wish to take this opportunity to report to you that, in addition to the documents signed, an additional three documents—a joint statement on holding exhibitions and sample fairs, a joint statement on a modern Japanese study center and another joint statement on fisheries—were issued.

The Japan-Soviet joint statement, which compiles the results of the summit talks, provides an orientation along which Japan and the Soviet Union should strive in building new relations between the two countries.

Other documents provide frameworks for further promoting cooperative relations between the two countries in the business sector, and I hope to exert efforts to carry these documents into practice smoothly through cooperation between the two countries in the days ahead.

Bringing to accord as many documents as these required a great deal of work and difficult negotiations. I express my deepest respect to the officials of the two countries for their cooperation and effort.

Well, in celebration of the successful signing, I wish to propose a toast.

Kaifu Assesses Talks on Territorial Issue

*OW1804192391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1800 GMT
18 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu gave a positive assessment on Friday of his six rounds of talks with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, saying that Japan could now put the territorial issue of the four Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido on the negotiating table.

Kaifu gave his assessment at a meeting with reporters after signing a joint communique with Gorbachev following tough summit talks from Tuesday through Friday.

The prime minister said Japan could, at last, mention the four islands—Shikotan, Etorofu, Kunashiri and the Habomais—by name in the Japan-Soviet joint communique, adding that Tokyo has not mentioned them by name until now.

He said the current communique covers the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration, signed by the then Prime Minister Ichiro Hatoyama and former Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev. The 1956 joint declaration said the Soviet Union would return two of the four islands—the Habomais and Shikotan—to Japan after both countries have signed a peace treaty.

Kaifu said Japan will start to negotiate a treaty on the basis of the joint communique, which he said recognizes the existence of a territorial dispute between the two countries. Kaifu said he and Gorbachev agreed that the most important matter for both countries is to conclude such a treaty. But he said Tokyo and Moscow have yet to establish a timetable for talks toward the signing of the treaty.

The prime minister touched on economic cooperation between the two countries, saying cooperation should be based on mutual trust, goodneighborliness and reciprocity. He said Japan has not randomly implemented a separation of economic cooperation from political principles toward the Soviet Union, adding that this is why Japan signed 15 technological and scientific memorandums with the Soviet Union the same day.

On the security system in Asia and the Pacific, Kaifu said he asked Gorbachev to continue to maintain friendly relations between the Soviet Union and the United States. The U.S. will play an important role in maintaining peace and security in the region, Kaifu told Gorbachev. Kaifu did not mention how Gorbachev responded, but said Japan would consider from a long-term perspective Gorbachev's proposal for an Asian-Pacific security framework involving the Soviet Union,

the U.S., Japan, China and India. Kaifu said the proposal would become reality when countries in the Asia-Pacific region are convinced such a system would work.

Kaifu Gives News Conference on USSR Talks

*OW1904042191 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1553 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[News conference by Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu with unidentified reporters; on 18 April at his official residence in Tokyo—recorded]

[Text] [Kaifu] The current visit to Japan by President Gorbachev is the first by a Soviet head of state. At the same time, the nation cherished a strong desire to have Japanese-Soviet relations drastically improve after resolving the territorial issue and concluding a peace treaty, our long cherished desire. A resolution was adopted only recently by the entire membership of the Diet, including myself. In this connection, I attended the latest summit talks with the intention of calling for a political decision for a breakthrough.

There were six rounds of summit talks held over three days, and thorough debates were held on a variety of wide-ranging issues. Since there are numerous items, and because I am asked to make it simple, I shall explain the territorial issue, in which I believe you are most interested. We reiterated our call for the return of the four islands, which has been Japan's longstanding principle, and had the fact that there exists the issue involving the four islands—Habomai, Shikotan, Kunashiri, and Etorofu—specifically written in the four items of the joint statement. To date, the issue of the four islands has never been accurately expressed in writing. We were able to have full talks on all issues relating to drafting and concluding a peace treaty, including the question of demarcating territories. This, I think, was an accomplishment.

For a long time, either an unresolved issue or a territorial issue was said to be nonexistent. Thinking of that time.... [changing thought] It was written clearly as four islands this time. At the same time, it was agreed between the president and me that hurrying with the work to complete the preparation of the peace treaty is of primary importance. We manifested our firm resolve to work constructively and energetically, making the most of all the affirmative factors accumulated through bilateral talks for many years since 1956. The year 1956 is the year when Japan and the Soviet Union jointly declared the termination of the state of war and the restoration of diplomatic relations.

By virtue of this, I think the latest summit talks helped create a totally new relationship in Japan-Soviet peace treaty talks. This is the fruit of the 1956 joint statement, the 1973 talks, the seven recent meetings of the Peace Treaty Working Group, the seven rounds of foreign ministers' talks between the two countries, and the zealous exchanges by Diet members and private citizens

at all levels conducted up to the latest summit talks. I thank them for this. That is all for now.

[Reporter] I want to ask you about the territorial issue. What sort of give and take was there in the latest series of talks regarding the existence of sovereign rights?

[Kaifu] Regarding the existence of sovereign rights, as I have just reported to you, Japan's basic posture to ask for the return of the four islands was recognized in the form of the existence of the issue. It was decided that we begin consultations on a peace treaty for the return of the four islands, based on all the discussions held since the 1956 joint statement.

[Reporter] The return of the two islands of Habomai and Shikotan was stipulated in the 1956 joint declaration. Was the validity of that agreement confirmed?

[Kaifu] All the affirmative factors accumulated since the 1956 joint statement to date were confirmed. This, therefore, includes the joint statement, of course.

[Reporter] Do you think that, as a result of the latest talks, the return of the territories is placed on the table of talks now?

[Kaifu] I think so. The Soviet side was active in calling for continuing talks at a high level. Even if there may be talks at various levels, I want to further accelerate the talks at that level, if possible. It was agreed between the two top leaders that the talks should be hastened.

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, there has been much talk about your visit to the Soviet Union. What are your thoughts about that at the present time?

[Kaifu] I will go when it is judged that I need to visit, after both sides adjust their schedules through diplomatic channels. At the moment, however, no decision has been made as to the timing of such a visit.

[Reporter] Now, questions will be asked by representatives of various media.

[Kaifu] Go ahead, please.

[Reporter] It has been said that the territorial talks now have been hastened. Was the topic of setting a deadline brought up in your talks?

[Kaifu] The agreement was to accelerate the talks and to make efforts to bring them to a settlement at the earliest possible date. Therefore, a specific deadline was not set. One thing I noted through the many hours of talks with President Gorbachev is that he also wants to normalize relations between our two countries and to accelerate the negotiations to conclude a peace treaty. He mentioned that many times.

[Reporter] Up to now, the basic principle of Japan's Soviet policy has been not to separate political matters from economic affairs. Is it correct now to believe that this principle has changed as a result of the latest talks?

[Kaifu] I believe that Japan's principle to date has been that it will not pursue the policy of separating politics from economics in an unprincipled manner and will strictly abide by the principle of talks for the return of the four islands. In the latest instance, the principle pertaining to that question was adhered to.

President Gorbachev expressed thanks in connection with Chernobyl and other questions, for example, and this means that we will continue extending aid from a humanitarian standpoint in the future, too. There also are matters which we have been addressing under the principle of economic cooperation toward the Soviet Union in the name of expanded equilibrium. Today, 15 documents were signed in addition to the joint statement. Because cooperative relationships have been deepened in various ways, these will be handled as separate matters.

[Reporter] I want to refer to the issue of Japanese POW's detained in the Soviet Union. Do you think that this issue was settled at this time?

[Kaifu] At the outset of my talks with him, I said to President Gorbachev: You laid wreaths at the graves of the detainees and victims, before arriving in Japan. You also made a comment there, expressing your condolences. Certainly the detainee issue remains as an ill feeling within our hearts. Therefore, regarding the fact that the president took such an action, I value it highly as an indication of his view of past history. I said that at the outset. We harbor many ill feelings not only toward the detainee issue but also toward things that happened before and after the end of the war. I mentioned those things at the beginning and midway through the talks. I believe that the Soviet side, for its part, made a review of history. Today, rosters of some of the dead detainees were presented to me by the Soviet president after the signing of the documents. I expect that such things will increase little by little.

[Reporter] Did the discussion on economic cooperation with the Soviet Union go quite deep?

[Kaifu] From my side I made the following decisions at the final consultations: [Kaifu reads from a memo] It has been confirmed that what conforms to the objectives is to develop constructive cooperation through extensive and free exchanges between the peoples of our two nations in various spheres, including trade, economy, science and technology, and politics, as well as social activities, culture, education, tourism, and sports under an atmosphere of good-neighborliness, mutual benefit, and trust.

This means that because Japan manifests its support for perestroika in all fields, Japan has, to date, been extending considerable assistance in areas that can be beneficial to perestroika and aid from a humanitarian standpoint, as you all know. Japan, for instance, contributed 2.6 billion yen by formulating a supplementary budget for medical equipment at the time of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident. In the economic and

trade spheres, Japan ranked as the Soviet Union's fourth largest trading partner, with turnover totalling a record \$6.1 billion. In 1989, Japan ranked third. There are some 30 odd cases of Japanese-Soviet joint venture companies. The number may be small, but Japan is working steadily. Taking these things into account, we plan to expand these efforts further.

[Reporter] Was Japanese cooperation a trump card in dealing with the territorial issue, after all?

[Kaifu] No, it was not. The territorial issue is a territorial issue and economic cooperation is economic cooperation in the end. Neither President Gorbachev nor I had the intention of changing the relationship between the territories and economic cooperation.

[Reporter] It is believed that, at the latest talks, the Soviet side put forward some proposals regarding security. How are you going to deal with them in concrete terms?

[Kaifu] That is a good question. For some time, the relationship between Japan and the Soviet Union was estranged, and even the joint statement of 1956 came to be disputed. The situation arose over the revision of the Japanese-U.S. security treaty. I first explained to President Gorbachev that it is of significance to world peace for the Soviet Union and the United States to maintain good relations and to cooperate with each other.

Furthermore, the Soviet Union and the United States are the countries which started the great international current to overcome the Cold War concept and to move toward peace. I stressed to him that we have great hopes in President Gorbachev's diplomacy of new thinking and in the Soviet Union's good relations with the United States. I told him that Japan is a country which has a security pact with the United States and that Japan considers the U.S. presence in Asia as contributing to the framework of stability and peace. Japan is beginning negotiations with the Soviet Union within such a framework. When I asked him whether he would deny [hitei] the Japanese-U.S. security system, he said that he would not deny it.

But, because there have been various proposals including those on forming a framework of talks among the United States, Japan, and the Soviet Union or forming a framework of talks among five nations by adding China and India to the three, we can consider such proposals at a next stage as medium- to long-term measures. But when we think about such proposals, we must make sure that they will be practicable. Asia is different from Europe. Take the Korean peninsula for instance. There are the problems of two governments in the North and the South. The Soviet Union has improved its relations with the South, and Japan is trying to restore diplomatic relations with the North. As such, there are roles to be played immediately by both countries in cooperation in moving toward the unification and in realizing the peace and stability of South Korea and North Korea. For instance, we can cooperate with each other with regard to

the question of the international inspection of the North Korean nuclear facilities, pursuant to the existing agreement. Even for that reason, it is important that Japan and the Soviet Union maintain stable political relations.

It is time that the president makes a courageous decision and that both sides make efforts toward the conclusion of a peace treaty. It is the major mission of the politicians to open a new destiny. There was a unity of views on that point.

[Reporter] When will a peace treaty be...

[Kaifu, interrupting] In order to do it as soon as possible, we on both sides wrote down in the joint statement that we will accelerate the efforts. We will make efforts toward that end.

[Reporter] You cannot give a specific target date?

[Kaifu] Forty-five years already have passed [since World War II ended] and 35 years have passed since diplomatic relations were established. We can no longer take it easy. We want to do it as soon as possible, and ensure that the dialogue is carried on as long as possible.

[Dean of Press Corps] The time is almost up, reporters. I would like to end the news conference with this: Thank you.

[Kaifu] Thank you so much.

Gorbachev Meets With Former POW's 18 Apr

OW1804175591 Tokyo-KYODO in English 1429 GMT
18 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev on Thursday expressed his condolences to former Japanese prisoners of war over their 60,000 comrades who died in Siberian and Mongolian labor camps.

Gorbachev told 15 former POWs from three different veterans' groups that he had paid his respects to Japanese POWs' tombs in the Siberian city of Khabarovsk on his way to Japan and viewed photos of the conditions under which the POWs were held.

"There exists an extremely heavy history. But the process of reconciliation is proceeding," he said.

"We cannot abandon history, but we must admit what happened. It is our duty to think well so we do not repeat the same thing," a serious-looking Gorbachev was quoted as telling the aging veterans at a Tokyo hotel.

This was the first time a Kremlin leader has met with former Japanese POWs, whose long detention after World War II has marred bilateral ties for many years.

"I express my sympathy on this occasion. I promise to make efforts for the betterment of bilateral ties," he said.

Soviet troops took over 600,000 prisoners of war, most in Japanese-occupied Manchuria (northeast China) and

others in the then Japanese territories of southern Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands, after declaring war on Japan a few days before Japan's surrender ended World War II in August 1945.

Most of the POWs were Japanese Imperial Army soldiers—including Korean and Chinese draftees—but some Japanese civilians were held as well.

The prisoners were taken to labor camps in Siberia or Mongolia to build railroads, work in mines, or fell logs. An estimated 60,000 of them died, many because of cold weather and insufficient supplies of food. Most of their remains have not been returned.

Rokuro Saito, 68, who heads the 70,000-member All-Japan Former Internees' Association, asked Gorbachev to issue labor certificates for their years of detention, paving the way for possible Japanese Government compensation.

Japan claims the detention, which lasted until 1956 for some POWs, violated the war-ending Potsdam Declaration, which called for the return of Japanese POWs to Japan for a normal life. But, since the adoption of a 1956 bilateral communique in which the two countries abandoned wartime claims against each other, Tokyo has not responded to veterans' calls for compensation for their free labor and physical damages.

Japan and the Soviet Union are to ink an accord before Gorbachev leaves Japan on Friday under which former POWs' tombs will be located and preserved. The agreement will also allow visits by Japanese family members and call for the release of lists of the deceased.

Gorbachev shook hands with the veterans and asked one of them, "which camp were you detained in?"

Saito, who spent four years in a Siberian camp, handed the president documents including a recent statement by the Soviet lawyers' association that labor certificates should be issued for the Japanese POWs.

He told reporters afterwards the meeting was a "big step," as Gorbachev showed sincerity after thoroughly studying the problem.

It is now the Japanese Government's turn to show sincerity on the compensation question, he added.

Tomoya Kambayashi, 66, who is among the plaintiffs in a lawsuit demanding compensation from the Japanese Government, told reporters emotionally, "it is only halfway ... But I'm sure (Gorbachev's) meeting with us will create public sentiment in favor of the lawsuit."

A ruling Liberal Democratic Party member of House of Representatives, Hideyuki Aizawa, who leads another veterans group of 60,000, expressed dissatisfaction with Gorbachev's failure to explicitly express regret over the POW issue and for Moscow's 1945 declaration of war against Japan, in violation of its neutrality pact with Tokyo.

Aizawa, 72, a former Economic Planning Agency chief, was a wartime army commander and spent over two years in a Soviet labor camp.

Teigo Kusaji, 87, who chairs the Sakuhoku-kai veterans' group, demanded that Moscow ink a peace treaty with Tokyo and return the four islands off Hokkaido it seized at the close of the war. Kusaji told Gorbachev, 60, that he is Kusaji's son's age and asked him to listen well to "the father's words." Kusaji, an army commander in Manchuria, was detained until 1956.

Gorbachev, after listening to remarks by three veterans at the 15-minute meeting, replied that he will study their requests and deliver an answer to each veterans' group.

At a reception later in the evening hosted by political, business, and other various leaders, Gorbachev again expressed his condolences over the POWs who died in Soviet camps.

He told the 2,500 guests that soldiers from both countries killed in the war would wish for peace between Japan and the Soviet Union.

Emperor, Empress Bid Gorbachevs Farewell

*OW1904013291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0119 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko bid farewell to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife Raisa Friday morning before leaving Tokyo for a visit to Kyoto and Nagasaki.

The farewell, originally scheduled for Thursday, was postponed as Gorbachev went through three unscheduled rounds of talks with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu over the knotty territorial dispute between the two countries.

The Soviet first couple are scheduled to board a Kyoto-bound Shinkansen bullet train at 11 AM, two hours behind schedule as a result of a late-night press conference by Gorbachev.

They will skip a sightseeing trip to the Nijo Castle in Kyoto but Gorbachev will keep a luncheon engagement to speak to business leaders in the Osaka, Kyoto, and Kobe area.

The Gorbachevs will fly from Osaka to Nagasaki in the afternoon, where they will visit the graves of Russian soldiers who died in the 1904-1905 war with Japan.

Gorbachev also paid a visit to the graves of Japanese prisoners of war on Monday during a stopover in Khabarovsk, in the Soviet Far East, on his way to Japan.

The Gorbachevs are also scheduled to visit the Peace Park in Nagasaki, the memorial to the victims of the U.S. atomic bombing of the city in the closing days of World War II.

From Nagasaki, they will fly to Cheju, a resort island off the southern tip of South Korea for an overnight stay for talks with South Korea President No Tae-u. Gorbachev and No will meet on Saturday.

Gorbachev, the first Kremlin leader to visit Japan, arrived in Japan on Tuesday.

Gorbachev Meets With Businessmen in Kyoto

OW1904111191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1102 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Kyoto, April 19 KYODO—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said Friday the joint communique he signed with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu late Thursday night will begin a process eventually culminating in the signing of a peace treaty between the two countries.

Gorbachev, speaking to 400 business and industry representatives during a stop here on the last day of his four-day visit to Japan, said the six rounds of talks he had with Kaifu would form the "foundation" for a future built on mutual trust.

But the Soviet leader, repeating a point he made at a press conference in Tokyo in the early hours of Friday morning, cautioned it is still too early to call the agreements with Kaifu a "breakthrough."

It is necessary to have further Japan-Soviet talks with a view to reaching more substantial agreements, he said.

"Mutual trust does not come from heaven. It is up to us to build it. We have to join in striving for it," he said.

Gorbachev said in the past four days in Japan he had confirmed an impression the trust between the two countries would come not just from the political agreements signed Thursday, but also from increased trade, tourism, and personnel exchanges.

He described his visit to Japan as a "turning point" in bilateral relations and said the newly signed agreements were a step toward achieving a peace treaty between the two countries.

"This will not be easy to achieve," he said. "Before us, in the long term, stands an improvement in Japan-Soviet relations."

Gorbachev noted that during the negotiations, Japan emphasized the political aspects to the relationship while the Soviet Union emphasized economic factors.

"I cannot say which of these is the more correct," Gorbachev said. "But I do know that they are interdependent."

Business Leader Offers Training

OW1904124691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Kyoto, April 19 KYODO—The leader of the Kansai District business community on Friday expressed its readiness to help train Soviet people on the market economy system.

Osamu Uno, chairman of the Kansai Economic Federation, made the commitment at a luncheon here to welcome Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. The Soviet leader visited Kyoto on the last day of his four-day stay in Japan.

Masaya Nishio, mayor of Osaka, also said the public sector would like to see the training plan materialize with the business community's cooperation, to help the Soviet Union switch to a market economy smoothly and successfully.

At the luncheon, the Pacific Resource Exchange Center (PREX), set up by the Kyoto, Osaka, and Kobe prefectural and municipal governments, submitted a training plan to Gorbachev.

Under the plan, 20 middle-ranking officials from enterprises and government agencies in the Soviet Far East will undergo two weeks of training in business management technology and know-how, covering pricing, distribution, finance, and other necessities for introducing a market system.

The training will be given between October 1991 and March 1992.

Gorbachev Remarks on Impressions in Nagasaki

OW1904132991 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1255 GMT 19 Apr 91

[From the "NHK News 21" program]

[Text] We have just received the following report:

Immediately prior to his departure from Nagasaki airport, President Gorbachev granted an interview to NHK, in which he stated his impressions of Japan, which he had visited for the first time. He said that a strong foundation had been laid for further progress in the relations between Japan and the Soviet Union. Thus, he expressed satisfaction with his visit to Japan.

President Gorbachev stated in particular that it was nice to have had the opportunity to meet the general public in Osaka, Kyoto, and Nagasaki, although he did not have many chances for such contacts during his stay in Tokyo.

President Gorbachev reportedly expressed great satisfaction over the agreements that were reached at the talks and on which documents were signed.

Further on Departure

OW1904122891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1205 GMT
19 Apr 91

[By Tadashi Matsumoto]

[Text] Nagasaki, April 19 KYODO—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev concluded his four-day state visit to Japan on Friday by visiting the graves of Russian soldiers and paying homage to the victims of this city's atomic bombing in 1945.

Gorbachev, accompanied by his wife, Raisa, came to this southern Japanese city after a brief stop in Kyoto, where he called on business leaders in western Japan to do more business with the Soviet Union.

After arriving in Nagasaki in the late afternoon, Gorbachev laid a wreath at a cemetery for Russian soldiers who died in captivity after the 1904-05 war with Japan and visited the Nagasaki Peace Park to pray for peace.

His visit to the city lasted only two hours, but this did not dampen the enthusiasm of local citizens, who turned out en masse near the peace park—closed to the public for security reasons—to greet the first leader of a nuclear superpower to visit the atom-bombed city.

At the peace park, ground zero of the August 9, 1945, U.S. bombing, Gorbachev placed a basket of white carnations before a memorial statue and offered a silent prayer in honor of the A-bomb victims.

The giant, 10-meter-high statue houses a cenotaph containing a list of 88,426 people killed in the bombing.

Kazuki Furui, Nagasaki vice mayor, escorted Gorbachev in the park. Mayor Hitoshi Motoshima, in the midst of a campaign for reelection, stayed away under a ban issued by the central government in Tokyo.

The Home Affairs Ministry, which oversees elections in Japan, barred all candidates from getting close to the Soviet leader, wary that the resulting publicity might tip the balance in the election.

Motoshima, abandoned by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) after he said the late Emperor Showa shared responsibility for Japan's role in World War II, faces an LDP candidate in Sunday's election.

Earlier, the Soviet leader laid a basket of red roses in a visit to the Goshinji Temple Cemetery, where about 700 Russian soldiers captured in the 1904-05 war are buried.

The visit to Goshinji may have been in part a balancing act, as Gorbachev visited the graves of Japanese prisoners, who died in Soviet camps after World War II, during a stopover in Khabarovsk on Monday on his way to Japan.

About 20,000 people, waving Japanese and Soviet flags, stood along the route of the Soviet first couple's journey through the city to welcome them.

On their way to the Goshinji Temple from the airport, the Gorbachevs halted the motorcade and got out of their limousine. They walked for 200 or 300 meters, waving their hands toward the spectators who packed the street.

Nagasaki was the last stop in Gorbachev's visit to Japan, the first by a Kremlin leader.

On his way to Nagasaki, Gorbachev stopped in Kyoto, an ancient capital in western Japan, where he delivered a speech to 400 Kansai area business leaders.

His message to the Kansai businessmen was similar to what he told businessmen in Tokyo: Economic cooperation is as important as political ties.

While the Japanese media enthusiastically hailed the joint communique released in Tokyo late Thursday for mentioning—though offering no solution to—the two countries' dispute over four northern islands, Gorbachev offered a more sober reaction, saying it is premature to call it a "breakthrough."

More talks are necessary before more substantial agreements can be reached between the two countries, he told the businessmen in Kansai.

Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko bid farewell to the Soviet first couple in the morning at the Akasaka State Guesthouse in Tokyo before they set off by train for Kyoto.

The Soviet leader left for Cheju Island in South Korea later in the day for an overnight stop and talks with South Korean President No Tae-u, in the first visit by a Soviet leader to either part of the divided Korean peninsula.

Kaifu Briefs Cabinet on Gorbachev Talks

OW1904053991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0526 GMT
19 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Friday said the results of his summit meeting with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev were significant, according to government officials.

Kaifu told ministers at a regular cabinet session that it was significant that the names of all four islands in the territorial dispute between the two countries were specified and a political will to conclude a peace treaty was expressed in the joint communique.

"I hung on, standing firm on principle," the officials quoted Kaifu as saying.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said Kaifu wants to visit Moscow at the earliest opportunity but that a concrete date has not been set.

There is no relationship between the date of the next summit meeting with Gorbachev and the expiration of

Kaifu's term as president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Sakamoto said.

Kaifu's LDP presidency expires at the end of October. The president of the ruling party usually becomes prime minister.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama suggested that Japan will be flexible in expanding practical relations between the two countries.

Japan and the Soviet Union agreed in the joint communique to develop practical relations in various fields in a balanced manner.

Japan has maintained that politics and economics are inseparable and that it will not provide full-fledged economic assistance to the Soviet Union until the territorial issue is resolved.

Nakayama told reporters that the joint communique laid the groundwork for negotiations on the territorial issue and that he will visit the Soviet Union as soon as possible.

Further on Kaifu's Remarks

OW1904105591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1040 GMT
19 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told his cabinet Friday that he and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev shared some tense moments during marathon negotiations ending Thursday, and that at one point he threatened to abandon a joint communique.

A government source attending the cabinet meeting quoted Kaifu as saying that he told Gorbachev he would be unable to sign the joint communique if Gorbachev insisted on focusing on economic cooperation, according to the source.

"Japan will not buy the islands with money. But we are willing to cooperate with perestroika reforms," Kaifu was quoted as saying after Gorbachev proposed revising the declaration.

Ironically, the argument appeared to be precisely the same one used by Gorbachev.

"The principle of selling the islands for dollars is absolutely impermissible. This kind of approach is humiliating," Gorbachev was quoted saying.

The final version of the 24-point communique contained one item devoted to the need to expand trade and the importance of perestroika reforms.

The two men spent over 13 hours in talks spread over three days, with 80 percent devoted to discussing a territorial dispute dating back to World War II, officials said.

Japan has insisted the dispute over four islands north of Hokkaido—Shikotan, the Habomais islets, Etorofu, and Kunashiri—must be resolved before Japan can offer substantial economic assistance.

Finance Minister Comments on USSR Aid

OW1904044391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0346 GMT
19 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said Friday that financial assistance to the Soviet Union needs understanding of major industrial nations.

Speaking at a press conference after a regular cabinet meeting, Hashimoto said, "The financial aid is not a matter that concerns only Japan."

"We need a global discussion on economic cooperation with the Soviet Union including financial aid, based on a report on the Soviet economy made by international institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF)."

Japan must go to the London summit meeting of the world's major economic powers in July with a strategy for building international support for the conclusion of a Japan-Soviet peace treaty, he said.

The finance minister said he was pleased that the final summit communique issued by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu clearly named the four northern islands both nations claim.

Meanwhile, Eiichi Nakao, international trade and industry minister, said Japan is not likely to offer the Soviets unlimited aid since they failed to agree to return the four northern islands.

He said economic cooperation between Japan and the Soviet Union should be stepped up on the assumption that the dispute will be solved and that the countries will conclude a peace treaty.

He also indicated the ministry will consider sending an official mission to study ways of helping the Soviets convert defense industries to civilian uses. "The ministry will continue to help the nation's perestroika policy both in technique and knowledge," Nakao said.

Michio Ochi, director general of the Economic Planning Agency, said he expects private companies will be the main force in promoting a market economy in the Soviet Union, indicating that government aid will not be enough to help the Soviets.

He said, however, "I feel private enterprises are not yet enough interested in doing so, despite the government's active attitude toward boosting the perestroika."

"Gorbachev should have given the Japanese people more attractive images that the Soviet Union is trustworthy, so that they (the Japanese) can take more actions promoting the perestroyka policy," he said.

Official Reiterates Aid Policy

*OW1904112691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1115 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—A senior Finance Ministry official reiterated Friday that Japan will not provide aid to the Soviet Union before a solution to a territorial dispute between the two nations.

Masami Kogayu, vice finance minister, told a news conference Japan's policy of not separating politics and economics remains unchanged.

He made the remark in referring to the Japan-Soviet Joint Communiqué issued by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Thursday night affirming the existence of a territorial dispute between the two nations.

Kogayu said the statement only made clear the dispute exists, not that there has been a settlement of the issue.

But he emphasized Japan will maintain coordination with other industrial nations on the issue of assistance to the Soviet Union.

Touching on a record low growth in money supply for March, Kogayu said the outstanding balance of money in circulation still remains at a high level because money supply grew at a high pace exceeding that of nominal growth in the domestic economy until last fall.

He said the ministry will continue to monitor the effects of the past tight monetary policy.

Defense Agency Chief Welcomes Gorbachev Proposal

*OW1904092591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0905 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Defense Agency Chief Yukihiko Ikeda on Friday welcomed a proposal by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to reduce military forces on four disputed islands off Hokkaido, and called for a further unilateral reduction by the Soviet Union. "The proposal is a step toward easing tensions," Ikeda told reporters.

The Soviet Union proposed a reduction of the military forces on the islands in a joint communiqué issued Thursday after he and Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu ended their talks in Tokyo.

But Ikeda said the level of Soviet armament in the Far East is a basic problem.

If a cut on the four islands—Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan, and the Habomai group—will lead to the lowering of

the level of arms in the entire Far East, it will be good for the stability in Asia, he said.

Officials Express Satisfaction With Visit

*OW1904134591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1313 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[By Tim Johnson: "News Analysis: Japan Claims Satisfaction Over Gorbachev Visit"]

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Japan this week brought an end to the Kremlin's taboo on open discussion of the two countries' decades-old territorial dispute, but a breakthrough on the issue remains nowhere in sight.

Officials in Japan say they are satisfied with Gorbachev's visit, the first by a Soviet leader, but Gorbachev himself gave no indication of what he plans to do next—except Moscow's willingness to talk.

"I don't think there is disappointment," said a senior Foreign Ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity. "We see it as a success in the sense that we have established an appropriate framework for pursuing the negotiation with intensity and accelerating it."

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Taizo Watanabe hailed the visit as "an important turning point" and "a significant step forward toward a breakthrough on this problem."

The problem involves Japan's claim to Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan, and the Habomai group of islets—the four islands off northeastern Hokkaido the Soviet Union seized at the end of World War II.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, who spent more than 10 hours with Gorbachev over three days negotiating the issue, told his cabinet colleagues Friday morning that the summit talks were "significant" because Japan succeeded in having all four disputed islands specified by name in the joint communiqué issued late Thursday night.

"That is something unprecedented," Watanabe agreed. He called it "a step forward" from a joint communiqué signed by then Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka and the late Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev in Moscow in 1973.

That communiqué said ambiguously that the two sides recognized that the task of concluding a peace treaty entailed resolving "the yet unresolved problems remaining since World War II."

Japanese officials later said Tanaka won an oral confirmation from Brezhnev that the territorial issue was included in the reference to "the yet unresolved problems." Moscow denied Brezhnev ever said any such thing.

Japanese Foreign Ministry officials noted that in the Kaifu-Gorbachev communiqué, the four disputed islands were not only cited by name for the first time, but

it was stated that the task of working for a peace treaty involves the issue of "territorial delimitation."

"This is a clear recognition that the issue of territory or territorial delimitation is at the very core of the peace treaty negotiations," one official said.

He called the communique "a step forward from 1973, which had been the best state of the negotiations since 1956."

In 1956, Japan and the Soviet Union issued a joint declaration in which Moscow agreed to transfer the two smaller islands—Shikotan and the Habomai islets—to Japanese sovereignty after the conclusion of a peace treaty.

The declaration was ratified by the Soviet parliament but Moscow renounced it in 1960 after Japan renewed its security treaty with the United States.

In the heat of the cold war, Moscow first said the transfer of the two smaller islands was conditional on the departure of all foreign troops from Japan, and a year later said there was no longer any territorial dispute with Japan.

Japanese officials said Kaifu pressed Gorbachev for an explicit reaffirmation of the 1956 promise, but Gorbachev responded he could not do so, citing domestic opposition.

"There was quite a bit of negotiation back and forth on this," one Japanese official recounted.

The compromise was reached after the sixth round of the summit talks, with a vague, indirect reference to the 1956 joint declaration, which ended the state of war and restored diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The two countries will "take advantage of all positive elements that have been built up in the bilateral negotiations in the years since Japan and the U.S.S.R. jointly proclaimed an end to the state of war and the restoration of diplomatic relations in 1956," the communique said.

Foreign Ministry officials expressed satisfaction over the passage, which they said was an implicit recognition of the legal validity of the 1956 joint declaration.

"In coming out with this formulation, we did confirm with the Soviet side that when we talk about 'all positive elements that have been built up since 1956' it does include the joint declaration of 1956," said one official.

The reaction from analysts was predictably mixed.

Prof. Hiroshi Wada, a Sovietologist at the University of Tokyo, said the passage in the communique is not tantamount to a Soviet reaffirmation of its 1956 pledge to return the two smaller islands.

"If the Japanese side thinks it has thus plucked the fruit of the 1956 declaration, this can be elusive," Wada said.

Robert Orr, head of the Kyoto Center for Japanese Studies and an expert in international relations, called the joint communique "certainly good, but it's not a peace treaty."

"I don't see how anyone could expect much more," Orr said, noting that it was the first visit by a Soviet leader to Japan. "The Soviets weren't going to throw the islands at them," he said.

Prof. Tsuyoshi Hasegawa, a Soviet expert at Hokkaido University, said the summit outcome was neither the worst nor the best scenario he had envisioned.

Hasegawa said both sides achieved something because Gorbachev can return to Moscow saying he made no territorial concessions, while Japan can take satisfaction in having forced the Soviet leader to include the islands by name as items for negotiation.

"It's really not a bad agreement," he said. "If you think that this is the beginning of a process of reconciliation and that one summit cannot solve all problems, this is a very good foundation," Hasegawa said.

In a post-mortem on the Gorbachev visit, major Japanese newspapers were less optimistic.

They noted that Kaifu failed not only to achieve his stated aim of getting Gorbachev to recognize Japanese sovereignty over the four islands but also failed in his backup goal of getting an explicit reaffirmation in writing of Moscow's 1956 pledge to hand over the two smaller ones.

The mass-circulation ASAHI SHIMBUN expressed concern that Gorbachev refused to directly confirm its old pledge, and said, "There is a strong anxiety that the Soviet Union might aim at shelving the issue."

But at the same time, it showed understanding that Gorbachev, whose power base has been shaken, was unable to make a major concession now.

The MAINICHI SHIMBUN said that, while the two countries deepened their understanding through the summit, the Japanese Government was too optimistic about the Soviet position on the territorial issue.

LDP Council Members Urge More Efforts on Islands

OW1904114991 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] The Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] held a joint session of its Executive and Policy Affairs Research Councils today. At the session, various views were expressed on the Japanese-Soviet joint statement signed last night. One view states that because the outcome cannot be easily regarded as progress, the government should make further efforts to attain the return of the four islands.

At today's session the government side gave a report on the details of the joint statement signed last night. In

response, various views were expressed by dietmen attending the session. One dietman said that both Prime Minister Kaifu and the government had made adequate efforts. Because there is no acknowledgement in the joint statement of Japan's sovereignty over the four islands nor any explicit confirmation of the 1956 Japanese-Soviet joint statement, which clearly stipulates the return of Habomai and Shikotan, it cannot be easily termed as progress and the government should make further efforts to attain the return of the four northern islands.

Moreover, another dietman said that President Gorbachev did not make any statement expressing regret over the detention of Japanese in Siberia and that the government should have dealt with this issue with the same efforts it had made in handling the territorial issue.

Soviet Academician Reviews Talks

*OW1904112491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1057 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—A leading Soviet Japanologist sees real progress toward a peace treaty in the Japan-Soviet joint communique signed late Thursday night, saying its "cautious expressions" cause ambiguity that obscures the document's significance.

Konstantin Sarkisov of the Soviet Institute of Oriental Studies on Friday praised Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev for his diplomatic abilities in forging the document and "navigating his ship through very dangerous waters."

The Soviet scholar said it was impossible for Gorbachev to make many concessions on the Northern Territories, as Japan calls them, during six rounds of summitry in Tokyo because he faces criticism from all corners back home.

Observers and analysts in Tokyo have speculated whether or not the communique recognizes Soviet obligations to a 1956 joint declaration—recognition that would open the way for return of two of the four disputed islands to Japan.

"There is no recognition, but there is no objection," Sarkisov said of the ambiguous fourth item in the 24-point communique.

But he pointed to the listing for the first time of the islands—Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan, and the Habomai group of islets—by name as a positive step in resolving the issue that has prevented conclusion of a Japan-Soviet peace treaty.

Sarkisov also pointed to the proposal to establish a simplified visa-free framework for entry to the islands by Japanese as progress.

Again, he cautioned, Gorbachev did not agree to return the islands, but did agree to negotiate about their possession.

Sarkisov expressed disappointment the Japanese media did not consider the 18th article of the communique "epochal," as he did, in which both nations said "the former enemy clauses" about Japan in the United Nations Charter "have lost their meaning."

Japan and the Soviet Union also agreed in the communique to seek appropriate ways to resolve the issue, which Sarkisov called "real proof" of Soviet "new thinking."

He suggested the article made Moscow the first permanent member of the U.N. Security Council to support Japan in its bid to eliminate its outdated "enemy state" status.

In praising the diplomatic abilities of the Soviet president, Sarkisov described Gorbachev's success in Tokyo as second only to his summit meeting in Reykjavik in 1986 with then U.S. President Ronald Reagan, where the two superpowers sowed the seeds for the major arms reductions that followed in later summits.

On the territorial dispute, Sarkisov noted Gorbachev would have been criticized if he had agreed to return the islands to Japan, since the Soviets are convinced they belong to them.

If he had done so, the Soviet people would have considered it Gorbachev's "personal concession," Sarkisov said.

And if he did nothing, it would have been considered a failure in foreign affairs, where Gorbachev has in the past enjoyed his greatest successes.

The scholar explained that few Soviets remember the decision to return Shikotan and the Habomais was made by then Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev and the Supreme Soviet.

Sarkisov said, in his own opinion, recognition of the 1956 declaration is "a must" for the Soviets in order to conclude a peace treaty with Japan.

Calling them "psychological barriers," Sarkisov said the Soviets are convinced the disputed islands belong to them and the Japanese are "preoccupied with 1945 and 1956."

The head of the Soviet institute's Japanese studies suggested the stagnation of relations should not be blamed on the islands issue, saying the economic situation in the Soviet Union prevents it from being an economic partner with Japan.

Business Circles 'Disappointed' With Summit

*OW1804184891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1706 GMT
18 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Japanese business circles were disappointed on Friday that the prolonged summit talks between Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev made little

headway over the territorial dispute, the biggest obstacle to expansion of anemic bilateral economic ties.

Eiji Suzuki, president of the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations (Nikkeiren), said, "we are disappointed because we had fairly big expectations."

After six rounds of talks spanning more than 10 hours, Kaifu and Gorbachev signed a joint communique which for the first time cited the Soviet-held North Pacific islands as an issue requiring "border delimitation" between the two countries but failed to commit the Soviet Union to returning the four islands claimed by Japan.

Well before Gorbachev arrived in Japan on Tuesday, speculation was rife in the Japanese media that Gorbachev, the first Kremlin leader to visit Japan, would hand back at least two of the four islands in return for badly-needed financial aid from Japan, which would help to spur the languid economic ties between the two nations.

Some business leaders, however, were more realistic.

Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), said, "the fact that the heads of Japan and the Soviet Union had frank discussions itself has a considerable meaning."

Yohei Mimura, chairman of the Japan Foreign Trade Council, also said, "it is impossible to fill in just a few days the several blank decades in Japan-Soviet political relations."

While hesitant over active economic aid, businesses are generally willing to promote their ties with the Soviets through intellectual and technological aid.

"It is not appropriate for us to continue to turn a deaf ear (to a Soviet request for economic aid) until the territorial issue is resolved," Nikkeiren Chief Suzuki said.

Disillusionment was also voiced in industry circles, which had expected that a possible breakthrough on the territorial issue would give a boost to their stalled projects there, particularly in the Far East.

"Gorbachev's visit was a crucial turning point in bilateral economic ties. But the president gave priority to the stability of his leadership," said an official at a major trading house.

Foreign Minister To Visit USSR in Jul

OW1904152291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1459 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama will visit the Soviet Union this summer for talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, Foreign Ministry sources said Friday.

Nakayama is expected to go to Moscow sometime after the London summit of the seven major economic powers, the sources said.

The visit is aimed at paving the way for a planned visit by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's later this year and laying the groundwork for concluding a peace treaty.

Nakayama will continue pressing the Soviet Union to agree to Tokyo's longstanding demand for the return of four Soviet-held islands north of Japan.

In a joint communique issued in Tokyo on Thursday, the Soviet Union officially admitted for the first time the four islands are subject for bilateral talks on "territorial delimitation."

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, while heading for Kyoto on a bullet train Friday, said he would like to use the summit talks with Kaifu as a step toward expanding relations with Japan, the sources said.

Gorbachev told Nakayama before leaving Nagasaki for South Korea he is satisfied with the outcome of his four-day trip to Japan, calling it very meaningful, the sources said.

Other Issues

Government To Rescind SDF Deployment Ordinance

OW1904034591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0131 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—The Government decided Friday to abolish a provisional ordinance allowing Japan to dispatch Self-Defense Forces (SDF) transport aircraft to evacuate refugees fleeing from the war-torn Persian Gulf region.

The abolition follows the United Nations Security Council's declaration of a ceasefire in the Gulf region. The Government is taking the action because it believes no requests would be forthcoming from international agencies for such missions, officials said.

The ordinance, adopted in late January, added Gulf war refugees to the categories of people covered by SDF transportation, such as state guests, as stipulated in the SDF Law. It was intended as part of Japan's program of contributions to the U.S.-led multinational efforts against Iraq in the war.

Opposition parties criticized the ordinance as deviating from the purpose and scope of the SDF Law. The ordinance would have allowed the dispatch of SDF personnel overseas without the approval of the Diet.

The scrapping of the ordinance followed the Government's decision on Tuesday to disband its Gulf Crisis Countermeasures Headquarters and to establish a separate headquarters aimed at assisting Kurdish refugees and reconstruction in the region.

Government To Send Minesweepers to Persian Gulf

*OW1904120691 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Excerpt] The government has decided to dispatch minesweepers of the Self-Defense Force [SDF] to aid in removing mines in the Persian Gulf. This will be the first such action for the SDF.

Once approved by the National Security Council, a unit of six minesweepers will be deployed to the Gulf before the end of this month.

The dispatch of the minesweepers to the Persian Gulf to handle mines abandoned in the Gulf has been studied by the government and the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] as a way in which Japan can contribute to reconstruction efforts in the area since the Gulf war ended in February.

This decision had been delayed because of opposition criticism warning that such an action could lead to the overseas dispatch of SDF troops. The Democratic Socialist Party has been the only opposition party that did not oppose it. Although Japanese tankers may possibly be damaged from mines, economic circles, including the oil industry, have strongly urged the dispatch of the vessels.

The government has finally decided to dispatch the vessels, judging that it can counter the criticism on the dispatch of troops overseas now that the Gulf war has ended completely.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Sakamoto conveyed the policy to leaders of all factions in the LDP today and received their basic understanding on it. The government will seek the understanding of the opposition parties at a meeting with party leaders next week. Subsequently, the Cabinet will refer the matter to the National Security Council and will have the minesweeper unit leave Japan before the end of this month. [passage omitted]

Further on Minesweepers Dispatch

*OW1904150991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1456 GMT
19 apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—The Japanese Government has decided to send Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) minesweepers to the Persian Gulf by the end of this month at the earliest to help remove mines left by Iraq, government sources said Friday.

If the decision is realized, it will be the first overseas dispatch of the Japanese Self-Defense Forces (SDF) in the post-World War II period.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will meet leaders of opposition parties Tuesday to seek their support.

Cabinet approval for the plan is expected Wednesday or Thursday after formal approval by the Security Council, the nation's top defense policy-making board chaired by Kaifu.

Kaifu will also brief leaders of Southeast Asian nations on the plan and seek their understanding when he visits Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand, Singapore, and the Philippines between April 27 and May 6, the sources said.

The government plans to send a fleet of four minesweepers, one supply ship, and one support ship. Their combined crews are expected to total 500.

Last fall, the government and ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) attempted to pass a bill aimed at sending SDF noncombat personnel to the Gulf region as part of Japanese contributions to international efforts to force Iraqi troops out of Kuwait.

The bill was scrapped in November following opposition and public protests it would run counter to the Constitution, which bans the nation from using force as a means of settling international disputes.

And during the Gulf war in January-February, the government adopted a provisional ordinance to send Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) transport planes to the Middle East to evacuate refugees if requested by international agencies. However, Japan was not called upon to provide the assistance before the war ended.

This time, the government says there are no legal restraints on sending SDF vessels to the Gulf after the war.

On Friday, Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto obtained consent for the plan from senior LDP politicians, including former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and former Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

'Legal Basis' Asked for Sending Minesweepers

*OW1804121491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1120 GMT
18 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—If Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu wants to send minesweepers to help clear Iraqi mines from the Persian Gulf, the government must demonstrate the legal basis for such action and get parliamentary approval, the Social Democratic Party (SDP) said Thursday.

The leading opposition party, in a senior members' meeting in Tokyo, demanded the government propose to the Diet the legal grounds for dispatching Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) minesweepers to the Gulf.

The members also confirmed the party would oppose the dispatch of minesweepers on the basis of Article 99 of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) law, which allows the SDF to sweep mines and other explosives in the sea but does not define operational sea areas.

But the meeting did not make clear if the party would object to the dispatch of minesweepers in principle.

party sources said, adding the final decision would rest with central executive members led by Chairwoman Takako Doi.

During the session, amid arguments that the government plan would invalidate Japan's constitutional restraints on military operations, some party members argued in favor of Kaifu's idea, noting the possibility of courting international criticism if Japanese commercial ships operate in a mine-free Gulf after other nations had cleaned up the area.

One member said the plan would be acceptable if it would be a one-off mission.

Government sources have said Kaifu wants to decide on the minesweeper dispatch after his scheduled five-nation tour of Southeast Asia between April 27 and May 6.

Japan's SDF are drawing up plans to send four minesweepers to the Gulf, accompanied by a support ship and supply ship. The ships' combined crews would total 500, Defense Agency sources said.

Government sources said the government is determined to make the MSDF ready to deal with any contingency on the advice of Defense Agency Director General Yukihiko Ikeda.

Cambodian Prime Minister Plans To Meet Kaifu

OW1904115791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1143 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Bangkok, April 19 KYODO—Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Vietnam-installed Cambodian Government in Phnom Penh will make a weeklong trip to Tokyo from Sunday [21 April] during which he will meet Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, the Japanese Embassy said Friday.

The embassy said the official purpose of Hun Sen's trip is for a medical checkup at a Tokyo hospital.

Hun Sen was rushed to hospital in an ambulance last December during a session in Paris of a United Nations-proposed provisional governing body, the Supreme National Council (SNC).

The Japanese Government does not recognize the Phnom Penh government led by President Heng Samrin, which took power in 1979 with the help of Vietnamese troops, ousting the Communist Khmer Rouge government.

The embassy said Tokyo consented to Hun Sen's trip from "a humanitarian viewpoint."

It is his second visit to Japan, the first being in June last year when Tokyo sponsored an international peace conference on Cambodia that failed to gain a comprehensive agreement.

Diplomatic sources said Japanese officials are expected to brief Hun Sen on Tokyo's recent confidential initiative which they describe as "to reinforce" a U.N. peace proposal calling for a ceasefire and disarmament of all the four warring parties "by resolving their differences."

In planned talks with Kaifu and Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, Hun Sen is expected to call for Japan's cooperation in achieving success in a May meeting of the four factions in Jakarta proposed by the Phnom Penh regime.

Nakayama met with Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Beijing earlier this month and had talks in Tokyo last month with Son Sann, prime minister of the three-party anti-Phnom Penh coalition government.

Seoul To Send Emergency Assistance to Kurds

OW1904105991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1033 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Japan will send emergency assistance to the Kurdish refugees fleeing Iraq, Foreign Ministry officials said Friday.

The assistance, in the form of material goods, will be sent by chartered flights to the refugees in Turkey and Iran in three instalments, beginning April 23, the officials said.

The items to be sent include 3,000 blankets, 50 tons of hard biscuit, and 2,000 cans of powdered milk, all collected by local governments and private relief organizations.

Muneo Suzuki, parliamentary vice foreign minister, handed the list of goods to the Japanese branch of the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) on Friday, the officials said.

Japan has also dispatched a six-member medical team from April 13 to 24 and a second 12-member group from April 18 through May 6.

Investors Cautious on Trade Ties in Latin America

OW1904103691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0720 GMT 19 Apr 91

[By Ikuji Nakaya]

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Latin American and Caribbean countries enthusiastically sought Japanese money and technology at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) meeting last week in Nagoya, but they may have to wait a while before Japan is really willing to play the game.

The region is "very much looking forward to expanding its relations in trade, in investment, in technology" with Japan, IDB President Enrique Iglesias said at the close of the annual meeting, the Washington-based regional bank's first in Asia. But whether what Iglesias called "the

new face of the modern Latin America" will attract substantial Japanese investment any time soon is unclear.

Latin American and Caribbean countries must develop substantial incentives to attract Japanese industry, said Shinichi Yufu, president of Japan International Development Organization Ltd. (Jaido). And an official at a major Japanese trading house added another cautionary note, saying Japanese companies "can't make any big investments until they see the economic conditions of each country ... say for two to three years ahead."

According to the Japan Tariff Association, Japan's exports to Latin America and Caribbean countries totaled 10.28 billion dollars in 1990, while its imports from the region amounted to 9.85 billion dollar. The export figure comprised a mere 3.6 percent of Japan's total exports and the imports just 4.2 percent. Yufu noted the importance of nurturing "supporting industry" to supply quality parts for manufacturing.

Jaido, established in 1989, promotes economic growth in developing nations by investing in development projects and offering advice. The Japanese Government owns 26 percent of Jaido, while the rest is held by private companies.

Yufu proposed that the countries in the region each concentrate on certain industries, bringing them to international levels, while an industrial policy is developed to meet the diverse needs of the whole region, perhaps by the IDB. As for Japanese aid, Yufu says, the public and private sectors must cooperate to make it useful, rather than just throwing money at the problem.

Top financial officials from Latin America and the Caribbean at the Nagoya meeting of the regional bank called for an increased Japanese commitment to the region. Several officials, trying to attract Japanese investment now, said those who wait to begin operating in the region may lose out.

Moises Naim, executive director of the World Bank and former Venezuelan minister of development, said in Tokyo after the meeting that, 10 years from now, Venezuela will not only be a very profitable place to do business, but "very competitive and very difficult to enter."

Mexican Undersecretary for International Financial Affairs Jose Gurria similarly told Japanese businessmen, "Don't wait to come into Mexico until we finish the free trade agreement negotiations, because then you will not be able to participate as a Mexican company."

The trade agreement, proposed last June by U.S. President George Bush under the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative (EAI), is designed to liberalize trade in North America by reducing tariffs and eliminating nontariff barriers, among other measures. The ultimate goal of the EAI is to create a hemispheric free trade zone, along with

a Multinational Investment Fund (MIF) to assist countries making investment reforms, and to reduce official debt. The MIF is also designed to promote the development of human resources and provide credit for small enterprises.

Government officials said Japan is committed to providing 500 million dollars over five years to the 1.5 billion dollar fund, as is Washington. The official with the Japanese trading house said Japan's commitment to the MIF is "good in that it will help foster an environment in the region suitable for investment."

Despite worries that Japanese money will flow into Central and Eastern Europe, leaving little for Latin America and the Caribbean, officials at the trading firm said the latter region is less risky politically than Eastern Europe and has more mature markets. They said Japanese companies should find more items to buy from the region and could help countries there add value to their products before they are exported.

Virgilio Tedin, the Argentine Government's financial representative in Japan, acknowledged that Japanese investors remain cautious about expanding business in Latin America, but said most of them understand the philosophy of the region's economic reforms.

After the region's so-called "lost decade" of the 1980s, countries there are trying to make the 1990s "the decade of hope" through reforms such as privatizing government-owned companies, cutting deficits, and reducing regulation to attract foreign investment.

Some business people are optimistic, like the official at the trading firm, that Latin American countries just might have the potential to follow in the footsteps of Asia's newly industrialized economies (NIES) such as Taiwan, Hong Kong, and South Korea by capitalizing on the free trade zone envisioned under the EAI. But even if countries in the region overcome their current problems of stagnation, inflation and stifling bureaucracy, Japanese companies are not likely to be major players, said Japanese businessmen and analysts. This is because Latin America is "simply too far away," both physically and psychologically, they said. Latin American and Caribbean countries must offer incentives as attractive as those of the region's competitors in Asia and Europe to attract substantial Japanese investment, they added.

Kaifu Seeks 'Early' PRC Visit To Promote Ties

*OW1904095691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0946 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said Friday he wants to visit China at an early date and to help promote bilateral ties.

"I hope to visit China at a convenient time for both sides and I wish to make some contribution to further consolidating the friendly relationship between the two countries," Kaifu said in a speech to a gathering of intellectuals from Japan and China at a Tokyo hotel.

Chinese Premier Li Peng sent a message to the meeting, saying that the building of a protracted, stable bilateral relationship of mutual cooperation will benefit the peace and prosperity of both the Asia-Pacific region and the world. Kaifu's speech came on the opening day of the seventh session of the 21st Century Committee for Japan-China (China-Japan) Friendship.

Academics from the two nations are to discuss bilateral ties as well as the international situation under the theme of "contributions by Japan and China to the formation of a new world order," in Fukushima Prefecture Saturday and Sunday. The committee is cochaired by Tadao Ishikawa, head of Tokyo's Keio University, and Zhang Xiangshan, a Standing Committee member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, who is also a vice president of China's Association for International Understanding.

Keidanren Group To Visit South Africa 20 Apr

OW1804143091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1235 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—A Japanese business delegation will leave on a fact-finding visit to South Africa on Saturday in preparation for a possible lifting of economic sanctions against the country by the Japanese Government.

The powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) will send a group of 10 senior officials from major trading companies and other leading firms, headed by Tamotsu Yamaguchi, vice president of the Bank of Tokyo. The group will arrive in South Africa on Saturday and meet government officials and leaders of antiapartheid groups. The visit will end April 27.

Along with the United States and the European Community (EC), Japan has adopted economic sanctions against South Africa in protest against the policies of racial segregation pursued by the Pretoria government. Since 1985, Tokyo has imposed a ban on exports of computers to the Army and police force in South Africa, and on imports of steels from the country. The government has also encouraged restraint in imports of gold coins and in tourism.

However, South Africa has shown a willingness to make efforts to dismantle the apartheid system, for example by releasing the black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela and promising to scrap key laws of discrimination by the end of June. These moves prompted the EC to repeal a prohibition against new investment in South Africa last December, and also to decide this week on lifting a ban on imports of gold coins, iron, and steel.

If Japan decides to follow the EC's example, it will open the doors for Japanese trading companies to actively invest in and trade with South Africa, which is known for its rich mineral resources, such as gold, platinum, diamonds, and iron ore.

Ministry Eases Curbs on Opening Bank Branches

OW1804143191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1302 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—The Finance Ministry on Thursday announced a further easing of the curbs on the opening of branches and subbranches as part of its financial liberalization program.

The restraints have been relaxed every two years since 1982. This time, the ministry has decided to make it easier for other banks to open subbranches where it is feared a bank merger might lead to regional oligopolization by a few banks. The move is aimed at encouraging competition between the branch of the merged bank and other banks' branches.

The newly eased standards permit a bank to open a branch or subbranch if there are less than four branches or subbranches of banks of different types operating within a radius of 300 meters. The old standards allowed a bank to open a branch or subbranch if there were less than four branches or subbranches of banks of both the same and different types operating within a radius of 300 meters. The new standards will also allow medium-size or small banks, like "shinkin" banks, or credit cooperatives, to open a branch if there are less than four branches or subbranches of banks of the same type operating within a radius of 300 meters.

Branches of banks in Tokyo, Osaka and other major cities were required, under the old standards, to have a combined floor area at least 8 times that of the lot on which they were built, but they will now be required to have a floor area only 7 times that of the lot.

The ceiling on the number of subbranch personnel has been expanded from 15 to 18, and banks are now allowed to open up to eight smaller outlets with ATM's (automated teller machines) and CD's (cash dispensers) per year instead of up to six.

Agency Compiles 'White Paper' on Small Businesses

OW1904034291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0044 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—A "structural labor shortage" may continue to put a big squeeze on small Japanese businesses throughout the 1990s and beyond unless they dramatically improve working conditions to woo young workers, a government white paper said Friday.

The current harsh labor crunch is unlikely to ease substantially, especially for small companies, even after the economy shifts to lower gear, due to the declining

number of young workers and their changing attitude toward employment, according to the annual white paper on small business in Japan.

The paper, compiled by the Small and Medium Enterprise Agency, argued that it is important for small companies to widen the scope of their employment and to make working conditions more attractive.

It called for shorter working hours, a better working environment, and "more glamorous" labor welfare systems. The paper also urged small firms to hire more female and elderly workers, and to further automate their operations. The labor shortage is taking a heavy toll on Japan's small businesses, it said.

The number of companies that went broke because they were unable to find enough human hands to meet orders soared 169.3 percent to 404 in 1990, according to Teikoku Data Bank Ltd., a private credit agency. High-flying interest rates are another factor choking off small business, which are becoming more and more deeply leveraged, it said.

The ratio of debt servicing costs to sales among small companies surged to 2.68 in the fourth quarter of 1990 from 1.58 two years earlier. The upsurge in land values is also straining the corporate management of small companies. A recent poll shows 35.8 percent of small companies believe high land values hurt their business, compared with just 8.6 percent that see a beneficial effect.

The impact of increased oil prices due to the Persian Gulf crisis, meanwhile, has been limited, mainly because Japanese companies have become less dependent on energy for production, the paper said.

Most endangered among small businesses are "mom and pop" stores, which are threatened by several factors, including changes in consumption patterns, urban structure and transportation systems, as well as the loosening of restrictions on large-scale stores. In contrast to the plight of these traditional small outlets, convenience stores and specialty discount stores are enjoying brisk business.

The paper advised imperiled small stores to boost the quality of their services by, for instance, remodeling and shifting to more specialized lines of goods. Under the rapidly changing business climate, some small companies are themselves undergoing significant transformations. The number of small companies that regard themselves as subcontractors, for instance, is on a steady decline, and more small firms are investing abroad.

Summing up the report, the paper said Japanese small businesses should pour more energy and resources into fostering human resources and plunge into new business fields with the audacious spirit of entrepreneurs.

Toshiba Develops High-Voltage Integrated Circuit

OW1904103191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0757 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Toshiba Corp. said Friday it has developed the first prototype inverter integrated circuit (IC) motor that can handle a voltage of up to 500 volts.

The IC will enable manufacturers to shrink the size of household electric appliances and industrial motors and stabilize their operations. Toshiba did not comment on when the product will be available to businesses.

Inverters are used to protect electrical equipment from fluctuations in voltage and to control motor rotation speed. Officials said standard single chip inverters are used today but their voltage tolerance is low. Hence manufacturers have had to combine chips, which has increased the size of the equipment. The officials said Toshiba achieved the highest voltage by integrating 700 elements on a single 8 millimeter by 7 millimeter chip—a roughly 95 percent reduction in size, compared with standard inverter ICs.

The small-size chip can be installed directly into electrical equipment, in contrast to a high voltage inverter, which is a separate piece of equipment. The technology is expected to have wide applications in telecommunications equipment and power supply units, the officials said.

Officials React to Lost Broadcast Satellite

OW1904073691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0709 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Japanese officials said Friday the loss of a Japanese broadcasting satellite in a failed launch from Cape Canaveral on Thursday could mean the loss of one of the nation's three satellite television channels.

An Atlas rocket carrying the satellite, called the BS-3H, for Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) was destroyed by a signal from the ground after one of its two second-stage engines failed to ignite four minutes and 44 seconds after launch at 2330 GMT Thursday.

Officials said the current broadcasting satellite, the BS-3A, would by next month become unable to continue relaying the three television channels—two for NHK and one for Japan Satellite Broadcasting Co. (JSB)—because of power problems.

They said broadcasting on one of the three channels might have to be suspended.

Posts and Telecommunications Minister Katsutsugu Sekiya told reporters that NHK and JSB should coordinate with each other on possible suspension of broadcasts on one of the channels.

The new satellite was to relay three television channels directly to homes in Japan once it became operational in two months.

It was launched to replace the BS-2X satellite that was destroyed in an explosion in February last year of a French Ariane rocket.

Meanwhile, Japan's Telecommunications Satellite Corp. and National Space Development Agency started studying plans to put back into operation a disused broadcasting satellite which was operational until last fall.

The satellite, BS-2B, is still in stationary orbit. If it is to be put back in operation, its attitude must be changed.

The officials believe there is still enough fuel on the satellite for one or two attitude changes.

Further on Failed Launch

OW1904122591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1012 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—The failed launch of a Japanese broadcasting satellite from a U.S. space center could mean refunds of television license fees as a result of the loss of one of the nation's three satellite television channels, Japanese officials said Friday.

An Atlas rocket carrying the BS-3H satellite for Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) was destroyed by a signal from the ground after one of its two second-stage engines failed to ignite four minutes and 44 seconds after launch at Cape Canaveral, Florida, on Thursday evening (local time).

The officials said the current broadcasting satellite, the BS-3A, will by next month become unable to continue relaying the three television channels—two for NHK and one for Japan Satellite Broadcasting Co. (JSB)—because of power problems.

They said broadcasting on one of the three channels will have to be suspended and that will force NHK or JSB to offer refunds of license fees to viewers.

The new satellite was to relay three television channels directly to homes in Japan once it became operational in two months.

It was launched to replace the BS-2X satellite, which was destroyed in an explosion in February 1990 of a French Ariane rocket.

Posts and Telecommunications Ministry officials held a series of meetings Friday with NHK and JSB officials on satellite television broadcasting following the failed launch.

Ministry officials said the only way to continue satellite broadcasting on three channels would be to put back into operation an unused broadcasting satellite, BS-2B, which was operational until last fall.

Although it is still in stationary orbit, its attitude must be changed if it is to be put back in operation, the officials said.

But the satellite is becoming obsolete, they say, and it will become increasingly difficult to change its attitude for lack of fuel on the satellite.

It is inevitable that satellite television images will deteriorate after June in parts of Japan, where refunds of license fees will be required, they said.

JSB's contract with viewers promises that it will broadcast for more than 80 hours a week and that it will offer refunds in case broadcasting is suspended continuously for more than two weeks a month.

NHK's contract says it will collect no fees in case broadcasting is suspended for more than half the time in a month but does not specify how it will respond if broadcasts are limited to one channel on its two-channel system.

North Korea

Message Phoned to South Assembly Speaker

SK1904055891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0533 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today sent a telephone message to his South Korean counterpart Pak Chun-kyu.

Noting that although the North side, in a telephone message sent by the acting chairman of the DPRK Red Cross Society to the president of the South Korean Red Cross on March 5, informed the South side that, at the request of the chairmen of the Central Committees of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea and the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea [UAWPK] and the Korean Students Committee, it would deliver letters addressed by them to their South Korean counterparts to the South side on March 7 and take over a letter the South Korean "National Assembly" speaker intended for the North, the latter has failed to send any affirmative reply until now, the message expresses regret at this uncourteous behavior.

I inform you that the acting chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], DPRK Red Cross Society in the April 19 telephone message to the president of the South Korean Red Cross said the letter you intend to send to me will be taken over when a letter of the chairman of the C.C., UAWPK to the chairman of the "National Federation of Peasant Associations" of South Korea is delivered at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 10:00 April 20, says the message.

Message Phoned to South Red Cross on Letter

*SK1904054791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0530 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today sent a telephone message to his South Korean counterpart Kim Sang-hyop.

The message says that two liaison officials will be sent to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom at ten on the morning of April 20 (Saturday) to hand over a letter addressed to the chairman of the National Federation of Peasants' Associations of South Korea (Chonnong) on its first founding anniversary, at the request of the chairman of the C.C., the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I notify you that we will also take over a letter of your side's "National Assembly speaker" to the chairman of the standing committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of our side, the message says.

No Tae-u Group Urged To Step Down in South

*SK1804055091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0527 GMT 18 Apr 91*

["Shameless Jargon of Colonial Puppet"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—At a recent "ceremony marking the anniversary of the establishment of the provisional government" the puppet prime minister of South Korea talked about the "traditionalism" and "national legitimacy" of the "Sixth Republic government." NODONG SINMUN today brands his argument as a shameless and ridiculous jargon of a colonial puppet.

The news analyst says:

The South Korean "Government" is a marionette "government" framed up by the U.S. imperialists, a screen for covering the colonial rule of the United States and a tool for executing its colonial policy.

The successive "governments" of South Korea have been of the same nature.

It was the United States that granted "the certificate of power" to No Tae-u, a military gangster of South Korea, praising him as a "pioneer of democratisation" and that zealously backed his "victory in the election" with political intrigues and military assistance. What has been done by the "Sixth Republic government" fabricated with the support of the bayonet of the U.S. is nothing but actively following the aggressive policy of the United States.

The South Korean authorities are a group of traitors forsaken by the people and are not entitled and have no face to talk about "legitimacy."

It is shameful of them to talk about "traditionalism" and "legitimacy" of the "Sixth Republic government." This is an intolerable insult to and mockery of the people at home and abroad.

Their talk about "traditionalism" and "legitimacy" is aimed at painting the South Korean "Government" as a "legitimate government" and legalizing their criminal "two Koreas" scheme including "unilateral U.N. membership."

Lurking behind it is also a sinister intention to bridge over the daily worsening ruling crisis by winning favour of the South Korean people.

This is, however, a foolish daydream.

A MINJU CHOSON analyst stresses that the No Tae-u ruling group must discard its foolish attempt to deceive public opinion with impudent talk and must step down at once.

'Imperialists' War Plan Denounced in Press

*SK1904111191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1017 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—Larson, commander of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific, some time ago, said "U.S. concern" about the Korean peninsula is "still necessary," raising a hue and cry over "military threat" of the North, and the ambassador in charge of military appropriations of the U.S. Administration declared "active support to the modernization program" of the South Korean puppet army.

These outbursts at a "small committee" of the U.S. House Military Committee represent what the U.S. ruling quarters think, and they are a brazen-faced sophism behind which lurks their heinous war plan, says MINJU CHOSON in a commentary today.

Their utterances are also intended to create a pretext to justify the U.S. imperialists' military occupation of South Korea and stepped-up war preparations in this region, transfer larger quantities of destruction weapons to the South Korean authorities and drive them out to the provocation of another war, the news analyst says, and goes on:

Recently, the "annual report on the assessment of military strength" of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff declared the Korean peninsula "a region fraught with the greatest danger of a local war after the Gulf" and made it open that if a war broke out, 200,000 troops would be hurled into this region. And the U.S. military quarters argued in unison for a permanent presence of the U.S. forces in South Korea and their perfect combat preparedness, contending that the situation on the Korean peninsula

"poses a threat to the security of the United States." These cannot be construed otherwise than a prelude to war.

Facts eloquently prove that the U.S. imperialists, bloated with megalomania after the Gulf war, designated the Korean peninsula as a test ground of strength and are trying to unleash another war.

South Korean 'Arms Buildup' Criticized

*SK1904051291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0423 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities have bought 12 "Super Lynx" anti-submarine helicopters for more than 140 million U.S. dollars on the basis of secret contract with Britain's Westland Helicopters Ltd. concluded in 1988, which had not been previously reported, according to a foreign press report from Seoul quoting a report of the South Korean English-language newspaper THE KOREA TIMES April 17.

Britain recently had delivered eight anti-submarine helicopters. The remaining four will be delivered within the first half of this year.

The South Korean ruling group has placed orders for six submarines and eight "P-3C Orions," maritime patrol aircraft designed by Lockheed of the United States, to modernize its naval forces.

This arms buildup of the South Korean authorities shows that they are stepping up in a planned way their preparations for a war against the North to make a forestalling surprise attack on the northern half of Korea and proves that the recent bellicose utterance of the puppet defence minister was not his individual "slip of the tongue" nor a mere "threat."

CPRF Demands End to Chondaehyop 'Repression'

*SK1904051491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0431 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] in its information No. 589 Thursday strongly demanded that the South Korean ruling group stop at once the roundup of the hard-core members of the National Council of Student Representatives of South Korea (Chondaehyop) and set free all the illegally arrested pro-reunification patriots and progressive students unconditionally and immediately.

The puppet police headquarters Monday ordered the police across South Korea to promptly arrest Yi Cholsong, chairman of the General Student Council of Seoul National University who is vice-chairman of Chondaehyop, and seven others and set a price of 500,000 won on their heads, saying that meetings and demonstrations in university towns would be orchestrated by Chondaehyop this year, the information says, and goes on:

The authorities' order to arrest the hard-core elements of Chondaehyop is a fascist repression to reduce the Chondaehyop organisation itself to a mere name by blocking its activities and stamp out the immediate spring struggle of students.

The "price" set on the heads of the patriotic students who are doing a righteous work for the country and the nation was unthinkable even under the dictatorship of the "Fifth Republic" and the "Yusin" dictatorship that earned itself an ill fame; it is the height of fascist repression which can be committed only under the truculent "Sixth Republic" at present.

'Defectors' Comment on 'People's Paradise'

*SK1704153391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1505 GMT 17 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 17 (KCNA)—South Korean defectors who have come to the warm embrace of the northern half of Korea expressed wonder at the true reality of the socialist motherland of chuche which has turned into a people's paradise good to live in under the wise leadership of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Noting that the North is a society based on collectivism and where the national identity is firmly established, Kang Hun-ku, former accountant and trade manager of Marine Co. Ltd. of South Korea, said that it is self-evident that a man-centred society where everybody leads a genuine life, a socialist society, has its tremendous might.

Won Yong-kwan, former representative of the Ansan Tongil Employment Co. Ltd., said:

I could see at first hand all the people live, with no one specially rich or poor, and work optimistically in well equipped work places under the loving care of the great President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il.

There are many countries and leaders in the world, but the countries and leaders who shape genuine politics for the people are very few and there is no country as the North where the people and the leader are united firmly with one mind, I think.

Yi Son-pil who was a fisherman in South Korea stressed that there is no such excellent society as the North which bestows all the best things in the world on the working people.

Pyo Pyong-ho, a former crewman of a Greek-flagged ship of a stock company in Pusan, South Korea, said that the politics shaped by respected President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il is really excellent people-first politics and the socialist North, an ideal of the people, will be everlasting.

Yun Ki-pok Meets Visiting ROK Politician

*SK1904053991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0455 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—Yun Ki-pok, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on April 18 met and had a conversation with Kim Hwi-won, former chairman of the South Korean Kangwon Provincial District Committee of the "Reunification Democratic Party" and central permanent member of the "Democratic Liberal Party", on a visit to the northern half of Korea.

Present on the occasion were An Pyong-su, vice-chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, and other officials concerned.

The conversation took place in an atmosphere overflowing with feelings of kinship.

Editorials Dedicated to ROK 1960 Apr Uprising

*SK1904115691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1033 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—Papers here today in editorials dedicated to the 31st anniversary of the heroic April 1960 popular uprising of the South Korean people call upon them to turn out in the anti-U.S., anti-fascist struggle, carrying forward the spirit of the April 19 struggle.

The April popular uprising that began with the riot action of the students and people in Masan against the March 15, 1960, election rigging was an eruption of the long pent-up grievances and resentment of the South Korean people against the colonial fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges and a massive anti-U.S., anti-fascist resistance.

NODONG SINMUN in an editorial says the desire of the April 19 resistance fighters has not yet been realised though 30 odd years have elapsed.

It continues:

Owing to the criminal manoeuvrings of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges South Korea has turned into a dangerous powder keg of a new war, a terror-ridden land where human rights and democracy are violated and the bayonet of military fascism holds sway and a corrupt and ailing hell where irregularities and social vices are prevalent and the people are languishing with worst life, deprived of rights.

The reality makes it incumbent upon the South Korean people to valiantly rise up once again in the anti-U.S., anti-fascist struggle, carrying forward the spirit of the April 19 struggle.

The South Korean students and people of all strata are filled with the will to realise without fail the ardent desire of the April 19 resistance martyrs for independence, democracy and reunification and lead a new life under a

new government and new system and are holding high the torchlight of the struggle to this end.

The South Korean people who have carried forward the traditions of the proud struggle from the days of April should step up their march toward independence, democracy and reunification with redoubled efforts.

First of all, they should wage a courageous struggle to end the aggression and vicious colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists and to replace the "Sixth Republic Regime", the bulwark of military dictatorship, with an independent, democratic power.

The editorial further says:

The U.S. imperialists should renounce the anachronistic dream of turning back the onward movement of history and act with discretion and take hands of aggression and interference off South Korea at once. The No Tae-u ruling group should immediately give up the anti-national, anti-popular treacherous rule and step down as demanded by the people.

MINJU CHOSON says that the South Korean people should courageously turn out in the struggle to smash the colonial military rule of the U.S. imperialists and drive the U.S. forces out of South Korea, firmly united under the banner of anti-U.S. independence.

U.S. Defense Secretary's Comments Reported

*SK1904054691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0507 GMT 19 Apr 91*

["True Color of Warmaniac Unveiled"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—U.S. Defence Secretary Cheney, recently elaborated on the program of the reduction of the U.S. forces and the amalgamation and abolition of U.S. military bases. In this he stated that, as a very strained situation persisted on the Korean peninsula, the U.S. forces' "continued presence" in South Korea is necessary in view of the U.S. "strategic interest and regional stability" and "reinforcements" will be sent to South Korea in the event of contingency.

This is a grave provocative outburst against the Korean people and peace of Korea, a NODONG SINMUN news analyst today says, and goes on:

In a report the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff said it is the "Korean peninsula that is fraught with the greatest danger of a local war" after the Gulf and if a war broke out on the peninsula, the United States would send more than 200,000-strong "reinforcements" there. The South Korean puppet defence minister, clamouring about the "possibility of a war" and "threat from the North" on the Korean peninsula, blared that they will "surprise the North's atomic reactor facilities" with commando units.

These facts bespeak that the United States, together with the South Korean puppets, has already worked out a plan of another war in Korea and is now recklessly running about to this end.

As the report of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff shows, the U.S. imperialists regard the Korean peninsula as a theatre of their war adventures.

The U.S. imperialists' scheme to stay in South Korea indefinitely and their ceaseless arms buildup, provocative military manoeuvres such as the "Team Spirit," a test nuclear war, military provocations and hostile acts against us, increasing military support to the South Korean ruling group and the puppet's belligerent blast threatening to surprise the North's targets apparently show that they are trying to carry into the practice the plan of strength against socialism with the provocation of a war in Korea as the startingpoint.

This is why the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have brought North-South dialogue to a collapse.

"Threat from the North" claimed by the U.S. imperialists is a base sophism intended to cover up and justify their aggressive criminal acts.

U.S., South Joint Aerial Exercises Reported

'Large-Scale' 16 Apr Activities

*SK1804053991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0501 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Airforce Command Tuesday staged large-scale joint aerial war exercises against the North with the sky above South Korea as the theatre of operation, according to military sources.

Mobilized in the provocative aerial war exercises in the skies above Anmyondo, Oeyondo, Wonju, Chechon and Pyongchang that day which were aimed at increasing joint operational capacity in the event of "contingency" were scores of nuclear-capable F-15 fighter-bombers based in Kadena, Japan, and F-16, F-4, F-5 and F-86 fighter-bombers belonging to the U.S. Airforce present in South Korea and the puppet airforce, more than 200 in all.

On the same day, the U.S. imperialists deployed several formations of nuclear-capable F-16, F-15, A-6 and other fighter-bombers, assault planes in the Kunsan and Osan Airfields from Kadena and other Pacific bases.

That day they brought to the Osan Air Base several formations of C-141, C-130 transport planes loaded with huge military equipment from the U.S. mainland and Pacific bases.

The U.S. Pacific Naval Command on the same day let formations of Atsuki-based A-6 assault planes fly above

Asan Bay in a war exercise for returning to their bases after making a surprise strike at distant targets.

That day the South Korean puppets drove out huge ground forces to Tongduchon and Pochon areas to stage a frantic ground attack exercise against the North with the support of scores of F-16, F-4, F-5, A-37 and other fighter-bombers and assault planes, whipping up a war fever.

More than 530 warplanes were mobilized in the aerial war maneuvers in the sky above South Korea on April 16 alone.

17 Apr 'Vicious Aerial Espionage'

*SK1904054091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0444 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Airforce Command on April 17 staged joint nuclear aerial strike exercises against the northern half of Korea in the skies above Oeyondo, Chechon, Wonju, Yaju and Kunwi, according to military sources.

Mobilized in the aerial war manoeuvres that day were scores of nuclear-capable F-15s and F-16s based in Kadena, Japan, and F-16s and F-15s of the U.S. Seventh Airforce present in South Korea. The manoeuvres were committed under the command of a Kadena-based E-3A plane.

In separate action, the U.S. Pacific Airforce Command deployed in Osan Air Base formations of nuclear-capable F-16s and F-15s and E-3A planes from Pacific bases that day for joint aerial strike exercises against the north with the South Korean region as the theatre of operation.

On the same day, the South Korean puppets drove out massive infantry and mechanized units to Kapyong and Hwachon areas to stage a frantic surprise attack exercise against the north with the support of F-4s, F-5s and A-37s.

And the U.S. imperialists that day concentrically sent E-3A, U-2 and RC-12 planes for a vicious aerial espionage on the northern half of Korea.

Warplanes mobilized in the war manoeuvres in the sky above South Korea on April 17 alone numbered more than 600.

River Navigation Accord Signed With China

*SK1804115091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1105 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—An agreement of the 30th meeting of the Korea-China Border River Navigation Cooperation Committee was signed in Sinuiju today.

Soviet Russian SFSR Delegation Arrives 18 Apr

*SK1804121891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1037 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Communist Party of the Russian SFSR [Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] led by Gennadiy Zhuganov [name as received], member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the communist party of the Russian SFSR secretary of its Central Committee, arrived here today.

It was met at the airport by Kwon Min-chun, vice-director of a department of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea, and an official of the Soviet Embassy here.

Soviet Khabarovsk Official Arrives for Visit

*SK1804120091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1036 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—Sergei Markarov, first secretary of the Khabarovsk Territorial Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, arrived here today.

He was met at the airport by Kwon Min-chun, vice-director of a department of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea, and an official of the Soviet Embassy here.

Kim Il-song Receives Japanese Paper Delegation

*SK1904113891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1046 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the visiting MAIN-ICHI SHIMBUN delegation of Japan led by its editor-in-chief Koichi Mori.

Present on the occasion were secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea Kim Yong-sun, and vice-chairman of the society for cultural relations with foreign countries Yi Chol-sin.

The head of the delegation conveyed to President Kim Il-song a personal letter and a gift of prime minister and president of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan Toshiki Kaifu, on his 79th birthday.

President Kim Il-song expressed thanks for this and had a conversation with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, before giving answers to the questions raised by them.

He was presented with a gift by the guests.

Joint Venture Companies Continue To Increase

*SK1904112291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1022 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—Joint venture companies are going into operation one after another in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The second-stage construction of the Chongchongang joint venture company was completed to be commissioned on April 17.

The modernization and automation level of the production processes has risen and it has become possible to markedly increase the production of silk yarn and improve its quality with the commissioning of the second-stage construction of this joint-venture company between the Inpung Trading Company and the Samyong Industrial Corporation of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon).

Earlier commissioned are the Chinhung Joint Venture Company which will produce embroidery and craft products in Sariwon City, North Hwanghae Province, in Hamhung City, South Hamgyong Province, in Pyongwon County, South Pyongan Province and other places, branch factories of the Manpung Joint Venture Company run by the Korean General Trading Company of Agricultural Products and the Asahi Industrial Corporation of Chongnyon, the June 4 Taesong Joint Venture Factory which will produce daily necessities, and the Hamhung Joint Venture Chemical Factory, a modern rare metal producing base.

The joint ventures companies commissioned by the patriotic deeds of the traders and manufacturers of compatriots under Chongnyon for the prosperity of the socialist homeland will help develop the industry of the country and improve the living standards of the people.

Kim Il-song Visits Joint Venture Exhibition

*SK1904120191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1052 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song, accompanied by senior officials of the party and state, went round the exhibition of joint venture products of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) today.

He was accompanied by Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK]; O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of People's Armed Forces; Yon Hyong-muk, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and premier of the Administration Council; Yi Chong-ok, Pak Song-chol, Kim Yong-nam, Choe Kwang, Kye Ung-tae, Chon Pyong-ho and Han Song-yong, members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee; Hyong Mu-Kwang, Choe Tae-pok,

Cho Yong-nim, Hong Song-nam, Kim Chol-man, Kim Pok-sin and Kang Hui-won, alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee; Kim Chung-nin, So Kwan-hui, Yun Ki-pok and Kim Yong-son, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee; Kim Yun-hyok, Kim Hwan, Kim Tal-hyon and Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council; Yi Kye-paek, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party; Chong Sin-hyok, chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party; and officials concerned.

President Kim Il-song was greeted at the exhibition hall by chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon Han Tok-su, its vice-chairmen Chon Yon-sik and Ho Chong-man and the members of Chongnyon delegations staying in the socialist homeland.

On show at the exhibition which opened on the occasion of the April holiday were several hundred kinds of products showing the achievements made by Korean traders and manufacturers under Chongnyon in their economic joint venture and cooperation with the home people over the past five years.

Looking around the exhibits of various domains such as heavy and light industries, agriculture and fisheries, radio engineering and services, President Kim Il-song noted with deep satisfaction that the traders and manufacturers under Chongnyon are producing quality goods in large quantities through effective economic joint venture and cooperation with the people of the homeland.

He said with high appraisal that Korean traders and manufacturers in Japan are doing many good things conducive to the economic development and people's living in the socialist homeland by active joint venture and cooperation with the home people, those with strength giving strength, those with money donating money and those with knowledge dedicating knowledge and that this is an expression of their noble patriotism.

He expressed the expectation that the Korean traders and manufacturers under Chongnyon and the officials and working people engaged in joint venture and cooperation display great vitality by consolidating and developing the achievements already registered.

Scientific Agreement Signed With Bulgaria

SK1804114791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1035 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—The 1991-1993 plan for cooperation of culture and sciences between the Governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Bulgaria was signed in Pyongyang today.

It was signed by Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries O Mun-han and Bulgarian Ambassador to Korea Georgi Stoyanov.

Yi Chong-ok, Official Meet Indian Ambassador

SK1804051791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0500 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—Vice-President Yi Chong-ok met and had a conversation with Indian Ambassador to Korea Shekhkholen Kipgen who paid a courtesy call on him at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on April 17.

Present there was Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Kyu-il.

Choe Kwang Attends Meeting on Cuban Anniversary

SK1904052991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0457 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—A meeting was held here on April 18 to mark the 30th anniversary of the victory of the Cuban people in the Playa Giron battle.

Present at the meeting were Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chief of General Staff of the Korean People's Army, Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs and chairman of the Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee, and others.

Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega and his embassy officials and Cuban guests were present on invitation.

In his speech at the meeting, Chong Chun-ki, chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, said the victory in the Playa Giron battle unreservedly demonstrated the great might and vitality of the Republic of Cuba which came into being with the masses of the people, the makers of history, as the core and the faith and will of the Cuban people to defend at whatever sacrifices the gains won at the cost of blood.

The Communist Party and Government of Cuba and the fraternal Cuban people are now stepping up preparations in real earnest to cope with the "special period of the peace era" under difficult conditions, he noted, and continued:

Some time ago, respected Comrade Fidel Castro declared that Cuba would continue adhering to socialism, come what may, and never return to capitalism, to a possession and colony of Yankees.

The Korean people express full support and firm solidarity for the Cuban people's struggle to take back Guantanamo and achieve the territorial integrity. In the future the Korean people will fight shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal Cuban people in the joint struggle for victory of the cause of anti-imperialist independence, the cause of socialism, without any slightest vacillation under whatever storm and stress.

Cuban Ambassador Juan Jose Leon Vega spoke next.

He said that 30 years ago the Cuban people under the leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba and Comrade Fidel Castro, their supreme commander, smashed the aggression of the mercenaries of the United States and became the first in the Latin American continent to inflict a crushing defeat on the U.S. imperialists.

The internationalist solidarity of all the progressive peoples of the world including the DPRK greatly contributed to defeating the imperialist enemy and winning victory in Playa Giron, he said, adding:

The support of the great leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il-song for the Cuban revolution in the most rigorous period in the history of Cuba was exceptional.

He highly estimated the efforts made by the DPRK under the guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to create an atmosphere of peace and detente on the Korean peninsula.

The South Korean puppets are staging such hostile acts as "Team Spirit" joint military exercises against the DPRK almost every day, shunning all the proposals of the DPRK for peace and reunification of Korea, he said, and stressed: this shows that the South Korean authorities are clean indifferent to the reunification of Korea and are following the policy of the U.S. imperialists for a permanent division of Korea.

I assure you once again that Cuba will in the future, too, consistently support the Korean people's struggle until the reunification of Korea has been achieved.

Korea and Cuba are holding fast to the banner of socialism in the eastern and western hemispheres of the globe, he said, stressing:

This will be a model of the world revolutionaries and it will demonstrate that socialism is incomparably superior to capitalism.

Vice Premier Meets With Ugandan Official

*SK1904061091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0514 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier Kang Hui-won met and had a friendly talk with Charles G.M. Owuori [spelling as received], administrator of Kampala City of Uganda, at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on April 18.

Present on the occasion was Han Pong-yong, vice-chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee.

The administrator said he could feel Korean people's deep reverence for the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song everywhere he went during his stay in Korea.

Saying he could get fresh strength from the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who are holding fast to

the revolutionary principle and expressed sincere thanks to them. [sentence as received]

Paper Stresses 'High Esteem' for Kim Il-song

*SK1904114491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1041 GMT 19 Apr 91*

["High National Pride and Honor of Korean People"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today says the Korean people's national pride and honor lie predominantly in holding the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song in high esteem.

Noting that the greatness and superiority of a nation and people immediately depend on the greatness of their leader, the article says:

The greatness and high authority of the leader are the fundamental source of the greatness and pride of the country and people. As the leader has great and high authority the country and the nation will further prosper, the national dignity will be exalted and people's pride and honor will grow accordingly.

Holding the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song in high esteem, the Korean people have become a happy people who are making revolution under the guidance of the pioneer of the revolutionary cause and the founder and leader of the party, and they have been able to fully display their honour as a proud people who have built a unique, promising socialism of their own style, as a most dignified and independent nation.

Our people have become able to cherish high national pride and honor as they have traversed an untrodden path of socialism in a unique way on the basis of the chuche idea.

Today they are confidently advancing along the road of chuche chosen by themselves, feeling high pride and honor in socialism of their own style.

The greatness of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song is the fundamental source of all the excellent qualities of our country and people and the invincibility of our country, and his august name is shining as a symbol of the high authority and honour of our people and the Korean-nation-best spirit deeply cherished by them.

Report on Spring Plowing in Rural Communities

*SK1804153291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1504 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—Spring ploughing is in full swing in rural communities of Korea.

According to data available at the Agricultural Commission, more than 150,000 hectares of paddy and non-paddy fields have been tilled in plain areas on the west

coast including South and North Pyongan, South and North Hwanghae Provinces.

In South Hwanghae Province ploughing was carried out in more than 20,000 hectares of paddy and nonpaddy fields.

Rural communities in the Yonbaek and Chaenyong plains worked out daily ploughing plans and are concentrating machines on the work.

Tractor drivers in Yoldu Samcholli and 100-ri Unjon plains are ploughing the paddy and nonpaddy fields which should be planted in rice and maize first of all with a high sense of responsibility for farming this year.

Sukchon and Mundok Counties are well ensuring conditions for spring ploughing and doing tilling as required by technical norms.

KCNA Review of 19 Apr Pyongyang Press

SK1904064191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0516 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang April 19 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry messages of greetings to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from foreign party and state leaders on his birthday and news that a congratulatory letter came to him from the Chinese headquarters of the Pan-Korean Alliance for National Reunification.

Works of the great leader President Kim Il-song were reported and deeply studied in foreign countries, says NODONG SINMUN.

According to the daily, a South Korean dissident in Seoul, together with workers, expressed ardent reverence for President Kim Il-song on the April holiday.

It is reported in the press that the April 15 holiday was celebrated abroad and an evening party of Arab countries' embassy officials here was arranged in Pyongyang on this occasion.

NODONG SINMUN conveys words of artistes who gave joint performances in the presence of President Kim Il-song during the April spring friendship art festival.

The paper comes out with an article titled "Our People's Great National Honor and Pride in Making Revolution Under the Guidance of the Great Leader."

The daily deals with a story telling that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il called at a unit of the People's Army and encouraged the soldiers to safeguard the land with blood, the land which was defended at the cost of blood.

Today marks the 31st anniversary of the April 19 uprising of the South Korean people.

The press carries editorials calling for continued powerful struggle for independence, democracy and reunification in South Korea and gives an account of a meeting held here on this anniversary.

Carried in the press are a statement released by a spokesman of the DPRK Ministry of People's Armed Forces denouncing the South Korean military boss' bellicose utterances and news that the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) made public a statement in this regard.

The press informs the readers that the Ninth April Spring Friendship Art Festival closed and festival prizes were awarded to art troupes of various countries, overseas Koreans' art troupes, successful stage pieces, artists and creators.

Spring tree planting is vigorously going on in the country, report papers.

NODONG SINMUN conveys news that the general secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Honduran Communist Party met the Korean ambassador to Nicaragua, a Korean photo and handicraft exhibition was held in Romania and an agreement of the 30th meeting of the Korea-China border river navigation cooperation committee was signed.

A plan of cultural and scientific cooperation between Korea and Bulgaria was signed in Pyongyang, reports the press.

Papers report that students in Cheju and Seoul rose up in a struggle against the South Korean "tour" of the Soviet president under the mottos "We oppose Gorbachev's visit" and "Down with No Tae-u."

Papers report about continued war exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets to invade the North.

NODONG SINMUN reports that students of South Korean universities vowed to inaugurate "Namchongnyon" [expansion unknown], a new fighting organisation, the participants in an extraordinary meeting of the international union of students signed their names in the signature paper demanding the release of woman student Yim Su-kyong, and Kim Tae-chung, president of the New Democratic Union, criticized the utterances of the puppet defence minister and demanded of the authorities his resignation.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with a commentary denouncing the outcries of the U.S. defence secretary that the continued presence of the U.S. forces in South Korea is needed and MINJU CHOSON a commentary condemning the South Korean authorities' brutal suppression of leading members of Chondaehyop.

Carried in the press is an account of a meeting held in Pyongyang to mark the 30th anniversary of the victory of the Cuban people in the Playa Giron battle. Papers dedicate articles to this occasion

The secretaries of the party committees of Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev and 10 other hero cities adopted an appeal to the home citizens and an evening party was arranged at the Soviet Embassy here on the occasion of the 121st birth anniversary of V.I. Lenin, says the press.

Chon Kum-chol, vice-chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, called a press conference in Pyongyang on April 18 concerning the on-going unjust trial in South Korea against the South side's delegates who had participated in the Berlin tripartite working-level talks to inaugurate the Pan-Korean Alliance for National Reunification (Pommin-nyon) and declared them innocent, says the press.

MINJU CHOSON in a commentary denounces the U.S. ruling quarters for running amuck to unleash a new war in Korea with outcries over the fictitious "threat from the North".

South Korea

Reports, Comment on President Gorbachev's Visit

KAL Victim Relatives Protest

SK1904073691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0708 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 19 (YONHAP)—A large portrait of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev was pelted with eggs and trampled on Friday by relatives of South Koreans killed when Korean Air Flight 007 was shot down by a Soviet fighter plane in 1983.

With Gorbachev's overnight visit to Korea about 10 hours away, some 30 people gathered in front of a waterfall near Yongdungpo to protest that the truth of the shooting had not been revealed and compensation was long overdue.

The Korea-Soviet air route should be shut down immediately until the Soviet Union made an official apology, they said.

They said they would fly to Cheju Island to ask the Soviet president for an apology Friday evening.

Rep. Yu In-hak, chairman of the KAL Victims Compensation Committee, said he would take a fact-finding team to the Soviet Union this summer to meet with the fighter pilot and collect information at the site of the wreckage near Sakhalin Island.

After the investigation, the committee will consider preparing a suit demanding compensation, he said.

Gorbachev Extends Planned Stay

SK1904010591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0052 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Cheju, South Korea, April 19 (YONHAP)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has extended his lightning stop in South Korea to an overnight stay and will hold summit talks Saturday morning with South Korean President No Tae-u.

Presidential spokesman Yi Su-chung said Gorbachev and his entourage will arrive on the southern island of Cheju at 8 P.M. Friday (11 A.M. GMT Friday) from Japan and remain until Saturday afternoon.

He was to arrive at around 7 P.M. Friday and leave for home three to four hours later.

Gorbachev and No will have dinner as scheduled Friday night at the Cheju Shilla Hotel. But other events have been postponed until Saturday morning. Yi said details resulting from the changed schedule would be announced later after consultations between the two governments.

Official Delegations Announced

SK1904011391 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES (Supplement) in English 19 Apr 91 p 2

[Official Korean, Soviet Government delegations to 19 April Cheju Island talks between ROK President No Tae-u and USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev]

[Text]

Korea	
Foreign Minister:	Yi Sang-ok
Trade-Industry Minister:	Yi Pong-so
Science-Technology Minister:	Kim Chin-hyon
Presidential Secretary General:	Chong Hae-chang
Presidential Security Service Chief:	Yi Hyon-u
Ambassador to the Soviet Union:	Kong No-myong
Senior Presidential Secretary for Economic Affairs:	Kim Chong-in
Presidential Security Advisor:	Kim Chong-hui
Senior Presidential Press Secretary:	Yi Su-chong
Senior Presidential Protocol Secretary:	Yi Pyong-ki
Administrator of the Office of Fisheries:	Yun Ok-yong
Director of European Bureau, Foreign Ministry:	Kwon Yong-min

Soviet Union	
Foreign Minister:	Aleksandr Bessmertnykh
Minister of Foreign Economic Relations:	Konstantin F. Katushev
Assistant to the President:	Anatoliy S. Chernyayev
Presidential Spokesman:	Vladimir N. Ignatenko

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs:	Igor Rogachev
Advisor to the President:	V.S. Gusenkov
Advisor to the President:	Karen N. Brutents
Director, Dept. of Social and Economic Analysis, Presidential Office:	A.I. Milyukov
Chief of Protocol, Presidential Office:	V.H. Shevchenko
Chief, Directorate of the State Protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs:	V.I. Chernyshev
Ambassador to Korea:	Oleg M. Sokolov
Chief of Dept. of Indochinese and Far Eastern Countries, Foreign Ministry:	Sergei S. Razov

Gorbachev Arrives at Cheju

SK1904133291 Seoul YONHAP in English 1242 GMT
19 Apr 91

[By Kim Hung-suk and Pak Song-ho]

[Text] Cheju, South Korea, April 19 (YONHAP)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev arrived here Friday night to promote political and economic relations with South Korea, which was alive throughout the day with sporadic demonstrations protesting his summit with President No Tae-u.

The Soviet leader, still beaming his trademark smile after four exhausting days of diplomatic wrangling in Japan over the fate of the Kuril Islands, was welcomed at Cheju International Airport by Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok and Presidential Secretary-General Chong Hae-chang.

When the special Aeroflot plane arrived, Chang Sun-sop, chief protocol officer of the Korean Foreign Ministry, and Soviet Ambassador to Seoul Oleg Sokolov stepped into the plane to receive the Soviet leader.

Gorbachev is the first Kremlin leader to visit either the capitalist South or communist North. He was scheduled to stop four to five hours on this island off the southern tip of the Korean peninsula, and leave for home around midnight Friday, but has extended his stay until 2 P.M. Saturday.

Gorbachev reviewed an honor guard. After a 15-minute welcoming ceremony, Gorbachev and his party left the airport for Hotel Shilla Cheju where he will stay the night and hold summit talks with President No Tae-u Saturday.

Gorbachev is to be guest of honor at a dinner to be hosted by No Friday evening. The two leaders will get down to business Saturday morning in private talks and then in an extended session with their cabinet ministers.

Security and peace in Northeast Asia and economic cooperation between the two countries are expected to dominate the talks, the third between No and Gorbachev in 10 months. The two presidents met twice last year, once before and once after their countries established diplomatic relations on Sept. 30.

With Gorbachev's stay on Cheju lengthened from four hours to nearly 18, Korean officials said the summit could produce more fruit than expected.

"It is true to say we had hoped for a longer stay by President Gorbachev. Flying in in the evening and flying out at midnight is not a proper way to hold a summit. We conveyed our view to the Soviets many times through diplomatic channels," one of No's aides said.

A Korean diplomat said the extension seemed to be two-wheeled.

"President Gorbachev said in Tokyo that he values South Korea as much as Japan. We have long wished for him to come here at the same time as his Japan trip and he decided to stop over after his visit to Japan, for all the displeasure of Pyongyang and Tokyo. The Soviet side has now accepted to prolong his stay. As for the short notice, we don't mind that," the diplomat said on condition of anonymity.

He said the Soviets were apparently eager to make the Cheju trip a success as Gorbachev's state visit to Japan failed to achieve desired results.

Gorbachev is popular among South Koreans (nearly 70 percent of whom like him, according to a recent poll) and the site of his visit and short stay disappointed many of them as they wanted to see him in Seoul and have him as their guest for longer, but radical leftist students and intellectuals oppose his visit in the belief that warming Seoul-Moscow ties will further isolate Pyongyang.

At Cheju National University, some 500 collegians burned a portrait of the Soviet leader and chanted anti-Gorbachev slogans just hours before he arrived.

South Korean officials say chances are that Moscow will support their country's bid for U.N. membership and reaffirm the position that North Korea should allow international inspection of its nuclear facilities.

The Soviets are not likely to press for more economic aid, but they may ask that the 3 billion U.S. dollars already agreed on is rushed through, the officials say.

A short while after tying the diplomatic knot, Seoul agreed in January to provide Moscow with a support package, divided into 1.5 billion dollars of tied loans, 500 million dollars in deferred payments and 1 billion dollars in syndicated bank loans.

Many Korean diplomatic analysts warn against additional Soviet demands for economic support.

No, Gorbachev Speak at Dinner

SK1904161291 Seoul YONHAP in English 1554 GMT
19 Apr 91

[Text] Cheju, South Korea, April 19 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u pledged Friday that he would not spare efforts in supporting Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's strive to reform.

Welcoming the Soviet leader and his delegation at a dinner at Hotel Shilla Cheju, No said, "the history-making perestroyka is currently undergoing what appears to be the inevitable process of transitional difficulties, but it will eventually lead your great country toward freedom and prosperity..."

"I promise here that I will support your excellency's strive to bring perestroyka to successful fruition more strongly than any other leadership of any other country. I will stand shoulder to shoulder with you and support your efforts."

Pointing out that the summit venue, Cheju Island, is now at the peak of spring, No said, "we are certain that the balmy spring of Cheju Island will shortly move northward, melting the ice along the way up the Korean peninsula and into the vast continent of Asia."

Gorbachev said in response that the warming ties between the Soviet Union and South Korea would serve as a good model of cooperation for other countries, particularly those in Asia and the Pacific.

"Neither subjective nor objective obstacles stand in the development of our relations... Experts in my country say that the Soviet Union and the Republic of Korea share many things in common with the two countries being in the process of reform and clearing the dregs of the past. This tells the potential for further cooperation," he said.

Citing the bilateral trade grew twofold recently, the Soviet president said the two countries could establish joint ventures, and cooperate in the construction and investment sectors.

He said he appreciated President No's expression of sympathy for perestroyka and "for helping us when we are in need of help."

Police Placed on Alert

*SK1904153991 Seoul YONHAP in English 1514 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Cheju, South Korea, April 19 (YONHAP)—The South Korean police have been placed on full alert across the country amid reports that the Soviet KGB gave South Korean authorities a list of 20 international terrorists, including members of the Japanese Red Army, who might try to enter the country.

Security is extremely tight in and around Hotel Shilla Cheju with bomb-sniffing dogs and thousands of police troopers and soldiers deployed.

Parties Issue Statements on Talks

*SK1904090591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0832 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Seoul, April 19 (YONHAP)—The ruling and opposition parties issued statements Friday saying they

expect a bounty of fruit from Saturday's summit talks between President No Tae-u and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Cho Yong-chik, deputy spokesman for the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, said he thought the extension of Gorbachev's stay was fortunate and hoped the two leaders would produce significant fruit.

Pak Sang-chon, spokesman for the main opposition New Democratic Union (NDU), urged that the truth of the 1983 Soviet downing of a Korean airliner be laid bare and responsibility taken during the summit meeting.

Pak said he hoped the summit would mark epochal progress toward ending the cold war on the Korean peninsula and that Seoul-Moscow economic cooperation would not mean a unilateral loss for Korea.

Chang Sok-hwa, speaking for the splinter Democratic Party, said he expected the No-Gorbachev meeting to make substantial progress in easing tension in Northeast Asia and bringing peace to the Korean peninsula.

He urged No to always remember the national interest in the issue of economic cooperation with the Soviet Union and Korea's admission to the United Nations during his talks with Gorbachev.

No To Brief Parliament Leaders

*SK1904090291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0713 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Seoul, April 19 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u will invite leaders of parliament, the judiciary and government to his office on April 23 to brief them on his summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, a senior ruling camp source said Thursday.

The leaders are Rep. Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, Rep. Kim Tae-chung, president of the main opposition New Democratic Union [NDU], Speaker Pak Chun-kyu, Chief Justice Kim Tok-chu and Prime Minister No Chae-pong.

"The meeting at the presidential office is No's customary practice to brief political leaders after an overseas trip," the source said.

"At the meeting, there will be exchanges of opinion on pending political issues such as management of the extraordinary session of the National Assembly and reformative amendment of laws."

"We have not been informed of the meeting," NDU Spokesman Pak Sang-chon said. "A decision on whether Kim will participate in the meeting will be made after the party is formally notified."

Close aides of the opposition leader said Kim would take part, but said, "we doubt there can be an earnest exchange of opinions on pending state affairs at such a large meeting."

Visit Seen Aiding New Asian Order

SK1904074391 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
(Supplement) in English 19 Apr 91 p1

[Text] Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to South Korea today is of particular importance with regard to a flurry of political developments in Northeast Asia.

Gorbachev visits here immediately after his historic trip to Japan. He is also to meet Chinese Chief Party Secretary Jiang Zemin in Moscow next month.

"We should pay keen attention to a string of summits between nations in this region," said a ranking government official, who noted a Chinese-Japanese summit is also due in Beijing next month.

"These developments may signal that waves of reform which started in Eastern Europe are beginning to reach the Northeast Asian region," he observed. "the South Korea-Soviet summit today should [be] viewed in this overall contest."

Gorbachev visits here despite a host of domestic problems he has to tackle, an indication that he is interested in playing a key role in reshaping the political order in Northeast Asia.

"The Cheju summit should be seen in the context of the Soviet Union's traditional southern policy," says Yi Ki-tak, a political science professor of Yonsei University.

By strengthening relations with Japan and South Korea, the Soviet Union will aim to increase its influence in the Northeast Asian region, he said.

The Soviet Union has traditionally maintained that it is both a European country and a member of the Asian community. It may be natural for such a country to pay keen attention to the ever growing political and economic might of Northeast Asian countries.

Also noteworthy is that Gorbachev's summit with President No Tae-u is taking place at a time when world attention is shifting to the Asia-Pacific region following the Gulf war.

"As seen in Europe and the Middle East, the Soviet Union is gradually losing its influence over global developments," the government official noted. "It may be determined to maintain its influence at least in Asia."

"In this regard, Gorbachev's visit is closely related with the process of reshaping the political order in Northeast Asia," he said, adding the visit will also help expand cooperative ties between the two countries.

Gorbachev also seems aware that consolidating peace on the Korean peninsula is the key to maintaining stability in the region.

He must also have recognized the importance of expanding cooperative ties with South Korea which plays an increasing role in the Asia-Pacific region.

Seoul hosted the Olympics in 1988, and now ranks 12th in the world in international trade volume. It has recently hosted the annual conference of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. Seoul will also be the site for this year's ministerial conference for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation.

In the course of pushing its northern policy of improving relations with communist or socialist countries, South Korea has also set up diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union and most East European countries. Its relations with China are also improving, as seen in the two countries' opening of trade offices with consular functions in each other's capital.

After carefully watching these developments, Moscow must have opted to foster closer ties with South Korea, than with North Korea, officials say.

They note that it is a symbolic event that Gorbachev visits South Korea, even though Soviet head of state has never been to North Korea, one of its long-standing allies.

Referring to the fact that Gorbachev will be the first Soviet head of state to ever visit either South or North Korea, presidential spokesman Yi Su-chung remarked: "It indicates the Soviet Union's placing importance on cooperation between the two countries in the Asia-Pacific region."

The No-Gorbachev talks on Korea's southern island of Cheju is the third meeting between the two leaders. They first met in San Francisco last June, six month before No's historic trip to Moscow.

There has been criticism about the summit taking place on Cheju Island, not in Seoul, and on the brevity of Gorbachev's unusually short stay expected to be about four hours.

Officials brushed aside the criticism, saying Cheju has been set for the summit in an effort to head off a harsh response from North Korea.

They also note that summits between leaders of advanced countries in many causes are held in resort places, as in the Malta summit between the United States and the Soviet Union two years ago.

They explained Gorbachev's brief stay by saying the Cheju talks will be a "working summit" in which protocol will be minimized to save time.

Presidential aides describe the Cheju summit as a "historic event" with far-reaching repercussions equal in its significance to the two countries' establishment of full diplomatic ties Sept. 30 last year.

Relations between the two countries have rapidly expanded since the two leaders first met in San Francisco last June.

One of the most remarkable developments may be the proclamation of the "Moscow Declaration" during No's Moscow visit in the middle of December last year.

In the declaration, a kind of basic treaty between the two countries, No and Gorbachev made it clear that they would cooperate in ushering in an era of cooperation and reconciliation on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia as a whole.

Gorbachev stressed the "inadmissibility of the threat or use of force," an indication that Moscow will not be on Pyongyang's side in case the North attempts an armed invasion of the South.

Predictions are that Gorbachev, at today's talks with No, will express his support for Seoul's efforts to gain a seat at the United Nations in clearer terms than in the past.

A ranking government official recently said that the Soviet Union has already conveyed its intention to back Seoul's bid for U.N. membership to South Korea through diplomatic channels.

Seoul last week made official its plan to apply for U.N. membership this fall, regardless of whether North Korea accepts its call for joint entry or not.

The North has long opposed Seoul's idea of the two countries having separate U.N. seats, arguing that separate entry would perpetuate the territorial division.

Government officials also seem to hope that China will not veto Seoul's U.N. membership application.

They appear to think that Beijing will not want to negatively affect its relations with Seoul because of the U.N. membership question.

Reports also said China will encourage North Korea to consider entering the United Nations separately with South Korea.

Both the Soviet Union and China are permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, along with the United States, Britain and France.

Government officials also note that the Cheju summit takes place ahead of the Soviet-Chinese summit next month.

Predicating that Beijing will likely follow the example of Moscow's expanding cooperative ties with Seoul, the officials said Gorbachev's visit this time will help foster an atmosphere for establishing full diplomatic ties between South Korea and China.

The establishment of diplomatic relations with China will help foster an international climate more favorable to Seoul's efforts for inter-Korean reconciliation, and ultimate reunification.

Economic Ties With Soviets Viewed

SK1904040591 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 19 Apr 91 p 6

[Text] The No-Gorbachev summit will no doubt accelerate Korea-Soviet economic ties already in high gear on private levels.

The latest struggle among domestic firms to take a larger niche of the \$800 million Korean loan tied to consumer goods exports to Moscow this year is evidence of Korean businesses' Soviet rush.

The third summit meeting between the leaders of the two countries will provide another dramatic turn in bilateral economic cooperation, which has improved with each diplomatic event, analysts here say.

The meeting will advance about 50 pending investment projects in the latter half of this year, they said.

Businesses have already started promoting planned investment projects and seeking ways to expand trade and technology cooperation immediately after the Soviet president's Cheju-do visit was announced.

Presently, the most visible area of economic cooperation is trade, spurred by the \$800 million tied loan.

Korea-Soviet trade started to increase in earnest in 1989. That year, Korea's exports jumped 86.0 percent from 1988 to \$208 million, while imports soared 120 percent to \$392 million, pushing up two-way trade to \$600 million, up 107 percent.

Last year, exports rose another 150 percent to \$519 million, but imports edged down 5.6 percent to \$370 million, or \$889 million in total trade, according to government figures.

Soviet trade even exceeded Seoul's total trade with six East European countries, including Hungary, Yugoslavia, Poland, showing Moscow's dominant position as the nation's trade partners among the so-called "northern," or former East bloc countries.

The Soviet portion of Seoul's total northern exports, for instance, rose from 10.7 percent last year to 27 percent this year.

Korea's exports to the Soviet Union are expected to rise to \$1,110 million, and imports, \$410 million, this year.

Electronic appliances will top the Soviet export list with \$180 million, followed by textiles' \$46 million, machinery's \$37 million, ship repairs' \$30 million and \$10 million for other miscellaneous items.

Domestic firms, however, see greater business potential in plant exports and resources development under joint venture formulas.

Korea's \$500 million worth of plant exports for the manufacture of 15 items, including VTR, instant noodle, video tape, and socks in 1992 and 1993, are part of the

\$3 billion economic aid agreement made between the two governments earlier this year.

Samsung Electronics Co. is the front-running Korean manufacturer, operating a VTR plant with investments of \$81 million. Samsung plans to ship out its second and third plants worth \$76 million and \$280 million, respectively, to the Soviet Union. In all, the Korean electronics maker aims at exporting \$890 million worth of electronic plants, including \$560 million in the VTR sector.

Hyundai Business Group has 10 investment projects under way in the country, including timber development, a soap plant, personal computer factory, petrochemical plant, coal mining, fishery product processing plant, natural gas development and construction of ship repair berths.

Other industrial conglomerates, including Lucky-Goldstar Group and Daewoo Group are also promoting trade and investment projects in various areas.

To support the private advance into the Soviet Union, related economic organizations are stepping up the construction of trade offices and exhibition centers in the country.

Korea Trade Promotion Corp. plans to set up two more trade offices in the Soviet Far East and Central Asian region, while establishing a large trade center in Moscow.

The Korea Exhibition Center will hold a display featuring 42 Soviet firms in May 1-7 here and a Korean commodity fair in Moscow in celebration of the establishment of diplomatic relations in late October.

Local economic experts, however, caution against cut-throat competition among domestic firms and excessive haste in economic advancement in the Soviet Union.

The fiercer the competition among Korean firms, the more room the Soviets will have to negotiate, they said.

Korean firms should try to develop advanced trade methods, such as barter trade, deviating from the simple cash trade, they said.

Also, they should be very attentive to political and social situations in the Soviet Union to minimize possible damage in the events of sociopolitical turmoil in the country, they said.

'Convergence of Interests' Noted

SK1904022591 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES
(Supplement) in English 19 Apr 91 p 1

[By staff reporter Sin Hak-nim]

[Text] Relations between South Korea and the Soviet Union are warming with the first-ever visit by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to Korea today. Now, substantial relations are emerging as a reality.

Gorbachev's visit is the result of the emerging convergence of interests between the two countries which opened full diplomatic ties last September, Korean government officials say.

They say that Gorbachev's visit is expected to contribute to facilitating substantial relations between the two countries in various aspects.

Though Gorbachev will stay on Cheju Island for just a couple of hours, his "workign visit" features two rounds of summit with President No Tae-u and will also bring about a change in the international situation surrounding the divided Korean peninsula. First of all, the officials say that Gorby's visit to South Korea first rather than to the North, a long-time ally of the Soviets, will prompt North Korea to turn to a more "realistic" policy toward the South.

"Gorby's visit must be sending a shocking message to North Korea," said a ranking government official.

His visit might be accepted by China as a call for her to upgrade relations with South Korea, analysts say. Despite the increasing expansion of trade and other non-political exchanges with South Korea, China still takes a separate stand toward the South on political and economic issues. Korea and China have yet to establish full diplomatic ties.

Gorbachev might have two purposes in mind for his diplomatic crusade to Japan and South Korea, according to the analysts. Gorbachev needs economic assistance from the two countries to save the nation from a crisis and to put his reform back on the right track.

"Gorbachev might be trying to play off South Korea against Japan to earn more economic assistance," a Foreign Ministry official says.

Kong No-myong, Korean ambassador to the Soviet Union, said that the Soviets hope that South Korea will provide \$3 billion in economic assistance as early as possible. However, there will not be a Soviet request for additional economic assistance, he said.

On the other hand, Gorbachev is seeking to play a key role, though not a dominant role, in the formation of a new order in the Asian and Pacific region during the era of post-war in the Gulf.

Yi Ki-chu, an assistant foreign minister for economic affairs, regarded Gorbachev's visit to Korea as a sign of the Soviets shifting to an "Asia and the Pacific first" policy at a time when a flurry of diplomatic activities are taking place in the region.

As if backing up such observations, Gorbachev renewed his call for a meeting of countries in the region to seek new collective security during his Japan visit, though he failed to receive positive response immediately.

Analysts here say that Gorbachev might also feel the necessity to stabilize the Asia and Pacific region, where

military confrontation is still dominant, in order to lure economic assistance from Japan and Korea.

Amb. Kong said that ranking Soviet officials told him that the summit meeting between the two countries will lay the important groundwork for firming up peace and stability in Asia and the Pacific as well as the bilateral relations.

In line with this policy is the revelation by two senior aides to President Gorbachev in Tokyo Monday that the Soviet Union has warned North Korea that it would stop supplying nuclear fuel for the North if it refuses to sign the nuclear safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), said Amb. Kong.

The first Korean ambassador to Moscow said that the Soviet Union has been urging the North to accept international inspection of nuclear facilities under construction.

Saying that the issues will be on top of the agenda for the summit today, Amb. Kong expected the Soviet Union to announce additional details about its efforts during Gorbachev's visit here.

The Soviet Union appears to be positive in realizing North Korea's acceptance of international inspection of its nuclear facilities because it may be regarded as a prerequisite for a "nuclear free zone" on the Korean peninsula.

South Korea, for its part, still has to depend upon the Soviet Union for its efforts to have North Korea open up and reconcile with South Korea, though some experts claim that the Soviet Union is losing its grip on North Korea.

A ranking Foreign Ministry official predicted that North Korea will feel it risky to turn its back against the Soviet Union, a major supplier of weapons and crude oil.

Barter trade between the Soviet Union and North Korea is declining mainly because the North Korean supply of consumer products in return for its purchase of oil is decreasing, according to Yi Chung-pin, assistant foreign minister for political affairs.

"The fact that we need the Soviet help for North Korea to open up and reform itself is different from the question of whether and how much influence the Soviets can exercise on the North," said another ranking Foreign Ministry official.

He said, "The United States, China, Japan and the Soviet Union are engaged in a series of diplomatic activities to form a new order in the Asian and Pacific region, surrounding the Korean peninsula in particular. At this time, our utmost goal is to lead North Korea to take on a more reformist and realistic policy line.

"Gorbachev's visit to our country is meaningful in that respect," said the official.

North Korea will increasingly feel the necessity to adapt itself to the changing situation around the Korean peninsula. "That is the reason why we believe North Korea will have to shift to a more realistic policy," said the official.

He said that warming ties between South Korea and the Soviet Union will not be hurt by issues arising from bilateral relations.

The construction of a monument for the victims of a KAL flight shot by a Soviet fighter is being promoted on Sakhalin Island, according to Amb. Kong.

He said that the Soviet Union also showed a positive response toward the request for a visit by bereaved families of the KAL victims to the Sakhalin Island for a commemorative service on the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the tragic incident on September 1.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry called upon Korea to inform it of specific dates and numbers of people who will visit the island.

Assembly Urges Friendship Society With USSR

*SK1904104091 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network
in Korean 1200 GMT 16 Apr 91*

[From the 'Nine O'Clock News' program]

[Text] Official exchanges of visits between our National Assembly and the Soviet Congress of People's Deputies are promoted briskly.

The congresses of the two countries agreed to form lawmaker's friendship society within the first half of this year. And, it has been learned that House Speaker Pak Chun-kyu will visit Moscow in June.

Reporter Yu Yon-chea will report on this:

[Begin Yu recording] For the first time as house speaker of our country's National Assembly, House Speaker Pak Chun-kyu plans to visit the Soviet Union in June. Thus, it seems that, with the ROK-Soviet summit talks as an occasion, the government and the National Assembly simultaneously promote diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

House Speaker Pak Chun-kyu plans to visit the Soviet Union with a large-scale parliamentary diplomatic delegation in June. He plans to invite chairman of the Soviet Presidium of the Supreme Soviet to visit the ROK. Thus, before and after his visit to the Soviet Union, it is expected that the issue of forming the ROK-Soviet lawmaker's friendship society, currently being discussed, will be settled.

When the delegation of the Soviet Congress of People's Deputies visited the ROK last year, an agreement on forming lawmaker's friendship society was reached in principle between House Speaker Pak Chun-kyu and the Soviet delegation. Thus, with the target to realize the

formation of the lawmaker's friendship society within the first half of this year, the work of selecting lawmakers to join the friendship society and mutual visiting plan are promoted at present. [end recording]

[Begin Pak Chong-su, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly, recording] I think that friendly relations will more briskly develop through exchanges of visits by lawmakers of the two countries. In addition, the Soviet side is more positively promoting this issue. [end recording]

[Begin Yu recording] If the issue of forming the ROK-Soviet lawmaker's friendship society, which will be continuously discussed in the Inter-Parliamentary Union to be held in Pyongyang beginning on 29 April, is settled, it is expected that congresses of the two countries will give indirect aid to developing the diplomatic relations between both countries. It is also expected that the formation of a lawmaker's friendship society will contribute to improving the North-South relations by positively inducing North Korea to open its door.

At present, our country has formed lawmaker's friendship society with 56 countries of the world. Our country, however, has formed a lawmaker's friendship society only with Hungary among East European countries. And, it is expected that a lawmaker's friendship society with Poland, Romania, and Mongolia will soon be formed. [end recording]

Soviet's Sokolov Speaks on Ties With ROK

SK1904065791 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
(Supplement) in English 19 Apr 91 p 1

[Text] of address by Oleg Sokolov, Soviet ambassador to Seoul, at meeting sponsored by the Center for American and Soviet Studies Dankook University in Seoul Feb 26]

[Text] Soviet interest in a friendly and cooperative relationship with Korea and in a peaceful and secure environment in this peninsula is not academic. That interest is vital. It stems from the simple fact that Korea is our immediate neighbor, and that whatever happens in this area, will necessarily affect the USSR, especially the Far Eastern part of our country-favorably or adversely.

For our own sake, we can not possibly want to see tensions increase near our borders. We are interested precisely in the opposite—in having them decreased. This is one overriding aspect of Soviet policy with regard to Korea as, indeed, in the entire Asia-Pacific region. My country is an integral part of this region: more than three quarters of Soviet territory is in Asia and our Pacific coastline is longer than any other country has.

There is another, no less important, aspect of our interest in cooperation, instead of confrontation, in this region, including Korea. It is our economic interest. With all due respect for our traditional ties with Europe and the West in general, which still make the bulk of Soviet foreign

economic activity, we clearly recognize the overwhelming importance of a new world economic center shaping up in the East. Two thirds of the world's population live in the countries of Asia and the Pacific, and the region accounts for nearly one half of international trade and over one half of industrial production. It is natural for the USSR to seek economic progress, particularly the development of its vast Asian territory, with all the resources there, on the path of interaction with other countries here, as part of interaction with other countries here, as part of the international division of labor in the region. There simply is no other alternative.

Both these imperatives—our security interest as well as economic interest—clearly require a constructive policy of dialogue and partnership in Korea and elsewhere in Asia. In fact, this was the original thrust of the Vladivostok and Krasnoyarsk policy program put forward by President Gorbachev a few years ago, which signified our "opening to the East." This, too, is the basic rationale of Soviet policy in Korea.

Viewed in the above context, the full normalization of interstate relations between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Korea reflected a long-apparent necessity for change. On the Soviet side that change came as another manifestation of the policy of new thinking. On the Korean side—as a successful result of northern policy.

It is clear that the leaders of our two countries have made a decision of major dimensions. It has made it possible to put an end to mutual estrangement of the USSR and the ROK and to replace past confrontation by a constructive and humane approach, based on the recognition of interdependence of all problems and all states. President No Tae-u said during his recent visit to the USSR: "Our two countries must now put behind us the unfortunate past and march together toward a future of friendship and cooperation."

Mutual understanding, sealed in a joint communique, that diplomatic relations between our two countries should not harm their existing relations with third countries is both realistic and significant. There is no doubt that, following this path, the Soviet Union and the Republic of Korea will be able to build relations not only beneficial for both of them, but also contributing to a reduction of tensions and to a better peace, stability and security in Northeast Asia and in the Asia-Pacific as a whole.

The normalization has already made our relations quite dynamic. It looks like both sides are now busy making up for all those opportunities missed during the past decades. In this respect our relations, still very young, seem to be uniquely lucky.

It is rather uncommon in international practice for relations between any two countries to practically start at the highest level (as it happened last June in San Francisco where Mikhail S. Gorbachev and No Tae-u first

met), and then to continue with yet another summit of our leaders (in Moscow last December).

The basic documents, adopted at these meetings, among them the Moscow declaration on general principles of relations between the USSR and the ROK, not only lay a solid political and legal foundation for our cooperation. They also chart quite a variety of areas for such cooperation in near and longer terms. In short, the very basis on which to build and to expand our relations has been established.

Trade and economic cooperation already moved to the forefront. And no wonder: businessmen preceeded diplomats in forging our relations. they were the first to break the wall of mutual separation.

That wall further cracked during the Seoul Olympics, and then following an agreement to establish direct trade and economic links between our two countries. The increasing volume of trade proves the point: in 1988 it amounted to a little more than \$200 million, in 1989—to almost \$600 million and in 1990 to nearly \$900 million.

The opening of diplomatic relations made it possible to assure reliable legal conditions for economic cooperation by concluding agreements on investment protection and avoidance of double taxation. As a result, investment cooperation alongside with traditional trade started to gain momentum. The first joint venture "jindo-Rus" began to manufacture fur coats in Moscow.

A joint venture set up by Hyundai for supplying 1 million cubic meters of timber will open soon in the Far East. A hotel in Moscow is being renovated by joint efforts of "Samsung" and the Soviet Sports Committee. (These are just a few examples of how we started). The number of Korean companies' offices in the USSR and Soviet business offices in Korea is also growing. All this makes the job of doing business in our two countries and choosing the right partners far more effective. Overall, by Korean as well as our own, estimates, we can look forward to a volume of trade running into several billion dollars in the next few years.

There is one particular area of cooperation where our two countries seem to be especially attracted to each other. It is the area where Soviet advanced technologies and fundamental research can be complimented by the capability and experience of Korean firms to put them to practical use. Both large corporations and medium- and small-sized companies in Korea are highly active in this area.

Some of the most promising avenues of technological cooperation cover microelectronics, biotechnology, new materials, nuclear energy, space research, lazer technology, geochemistry, oil chemistry and others. In addition, I would like to draw your attention to the huge scientific and technological potential of the Soviet military-industrial complex. Until recently it had been largely hidden even from the public eye. Now, the process of conversion in the USSR has finally made it

come out into the open and become available to civilian economy and foreign cooperation.

Let me take this opportunity to express appreciation of the recent bilateral accords to grant substantial Korean commodity, investment and financial credits to the Soviet Union. We need them very much precisely at this crucial moment of perestroyka. We also look upon them as opening up new possibilities for Korean business to firmly establish itself on the Soviet market. As a result our people will soon be able to see the true quality and standards of Korean products.

As to investments, some recent decisions taken by our government and parliament provide new freedom of action for foreign investors, including rights to buy real estate, shares, concessions and to reinvest earned Soviet money, say, in the development of natural resources of Siberia and the Far East.

This brings me to the subject of our domestic situation at the moment. To put it in a nutshell, my country is going through a particularly acute and critical stage of perestroyka. Day by day we see how difficult it is to make a transition from one system of values to another. President Gorbachev frankly admitted a week ago that while we are discarding the old authoritarian-bureaucratic system we have not yet built a new one. Ups and downs on that road are probably inevitable, especially in a country as vast and as diverse as the Soviet Union.

One comparison may be in order here. It is said that it took Korea, a smaller country and a much more homogeneous society, about 30 years to complete its own transition. We, too, are beginning to realize that it might take longer, than originally thought, to convert, as one basic transformation, to a market-related economy.

The situation is further aggravated by interethnic strife, by the stampede of the Baltic republics to secede from the Union, even disregarding our Constitution and legislative norms, and by a procrastinated political debate over the rights of other republics versus the center. In short, the process of renewal started six years ago, it being accompanied by serious political, economic and ethnic problems.

This seems to breed a rush of doomsday scenarios, both at home and abroad. The impression is that some critics, especially foreign, are eager to bury perestroyka. I do not believe for a moment that this is a viable proposition. There can be no return to the past. Perhaps, the best guarantee against that is that the might potential of freedom and democracy has already been unleashed in the country. We have no other alternative but to continue going up that road, however, bumpy it might be.

Right now there is a lot of work being done both by our government and parliament on a new Union treaty, which will clearly divide powers between the republics and the center. The aim is to address various ethnic and local concerns regarding property, enterprises, banks and resources and to draw a definite line of authority

between local autonomy and the rights of the center within a renewed All-Union Federation.

We hope that the success of this work will largely remove the existing frictions in that category. It will also be of help to foreign companies in their business operations in the Soviet Union. As President Gorbachev recently put it, we would allow only one dictatorship—the dictatorship of law, to be applied to all. And a recent announcement by the new Soviet prime minister that he plans to abolish Gosplan, a formerly all-powerful government agency which became a symbol of centrally-planned economic system, is another reaffirmation that our reform of that system continues.

We believe that the dialogue between the South and the North is absolutely essential for improving the situation in the Korean Peninsula. It helps lay the groundwork for a better trust and understanding between the two sides, which is indispensable for a solution of the Korean problem. Therefore, in our view, it is necessary to refrain from any action that hampers relations between Seoul and Pyongyang and continued intra-Korean contacts.

Given the current suspension of the dialogue at the level of prime ministers, the Soviet Union expresses the hope that in the final analysis good will and common sense will prevail and lead to an early resumption of dialogue at all levels. This would certainly be in the interests of the Korean people, and of stronger peace and security in the peninsula and the Asia-Pacific region as a whole.

Let me stress that the USSR respects the just right and desire of the Korean people, both in the south and in the north, to restore their national unity through expression of the will of the Korean people by peaceful and democratic means. It is clear that Korean reunification can be achieved only by Koreans themselves, by their joint continuous search for mutually acceptable compromises, however difficult or even frustrating at times this process may be.

Experience also proves that some progress, at least in certain areas, can in fact be achieved through dialogue. The recent acclaimed agreement between Seoul and Pyongyang to form a joint sports team for the forthcoming international competitions is a case in point.

In short, continuity rather than breaking up the lines of communication, patience rather than emotions—that is the way to proceed in the dialogue. As President No Tae-u said in this connection: "South and North Korea should maintain mutually helpful, reconciliatory relations, in the absence of war, until the time of reunification."

Just like peaceful reunification of Korea cannot be sought, let alone achieved, on the path of confrontation and whipping up tensions, creating favorable international environment, too, requires dialogue and cooperation among all those whose interests are involved. My country is prepared to actively contribute to making such

environment and interact for the purpose with other states. This certainly includes the Republic of Korea.

One encouraging element shaping up in this context is a new nature of Soviet-U.S. relations as it emerged over the last few years. It is important, for instance, that the Soviet Union and the United States have formally agreed not to view each other as adversaries not only in Europe but also in Asia. This should have a positive effect on the situation in the Korean Peninsula as well. One would hope that this statement of political intent is to be followed by specific steps to be taken, say, in the confidence-building area. Why not start expert-level consultations, for example, on military balance in the Peninsula?

Let me emphasize that such measures, as we view them, would not disrupt in any way the established military or political structures and existing relations or alliances. We respect the right of every country to build relations with others in accordance with national interests, including those of security. The task as we see it, is precisely how to ensure security at lower levels of military confrontation. In the Korean context that, necessarily, is a multi-lateral task.

Just a few figures to illustrate what the Soviet Union is doing in terms of military reductions in Asia, both unilaterally and under international treaties.

Two and a half years ago President Gorbachev pledged before the United Nations to unilaterally cut the strength of Soviet armed forces by half a million men. In the Asian part of the country alone these cuts amount to 200,000 troops. The withdrawal of Soviet forces from Mongolia is being completed, too. Last year the USSR and China signed an agreement on basic principles of mutual reduction of their armed forces and on confidence-building measures near the common border.

The aim is to completely demilitarize Soviet-Chinese border areas. Soviet military presence in the Vietnamese facility of Kamhran continues to be curtailed. The structure of armed forces deployed in the Asian districts as well as of our Pacific fleet is being reshaped so as to conform to purely defensive function in accordance with the new military doctrine of reasonable defense sufficiency. When all these reductions and adjustments are completed—by and large this process will be over in the course of this year—the Soviet Union will have less troops in the Far Eastern part of the country, than the Republic of Korea.

In addition, under the Soviet-American INF Treaty the USSR has already completed elimination of 424 shorter-range missiles deployed in the Asian part of the country. By the middle of this year we will have completed elimination of 166 intermediate-range missiles there. My country also stated that it will not increase nuclear capability in Asia and will not be the first to use nuclear weapons in any situation.

We believe all this contributes to a new security environment in the Asia-Pacific, including Northeast Asia. We stand ready for constructive discussion of any other steps leading toward a balanced reduction of military levels in the region.

Overall, prospects appear to be good for our newly established relations. The two summit meetings started the political dialogue which continues. Last January the first consultations between the foreign ministries took place in Seoul, and it is now the Korean side's turn to go to Moscow for the next round. Improvements are beginning to replace some vestiges of the past in practical aspects of our contacts. For example, the recent decision by the ROK government to remove restrictions on trips to my country for Korean citizens is certainly welcome.

We see a lot of potential for economic and technological cooperation. Culture, education, sports, media and other areas are waiting to be fully tapped for our contacts to expand the "infrastructure" of our relationship and to increase mutual understanding and friendship between our peoples.

Let me end on a personal note.

I was pleased to become the first Soviet ambassador to the Republic of Korea. This is a great honor and a big responsibility. So far I have not managed to travel outside Seoul. But already I feel the hospitality of the Korean people, their dynamism and diligence as well as interest in learning more about the Soviet union.

I am quite impressed by Seoul—its architecture, cleanliness and order, the way national culture and traditions are being kept, the beautiful city landscapes and even sunny weather in winter. I am confident that further contacts will mutually enrich our two peoples and will benefit the cause of peace in our entire region. As ambassador I pledge to do my best toward this end.

U.S., USSR Vie for Communications Project

SK1904045491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0221 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 19 (OANA-YONHAP)—Cutthroat competition is likely between the United States and Soviet Union over a project to launch a South Korean communications satellite by 1995, a government official said Friday.

In the run-up to international bidding sometime before June, the United States has shown great interest in the project.

In mid-March, U.S. Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher met with Trade and Industry Minister Yi Pong-so here and strongly appealed for special consideration for American aero-space companies, the official said.

Hughes Aircraft Co. and General Electric have expressed hopes to undertake the 400 million U.S. dollar venture, Korea's first such project, said the official who declined to be named.

The Soviet Union entered the competition when Korean and Soviet Government officials gathered in Seoul for a policy consultation meeting in January. Before and after the meeting, Moscow sought to take part in the project and touted its superior technology.

The Soviets said they wanted to be in in any form. If manufacturing the rocket was impossible, they just wanted Korea to use a launching pad of their make, he said.

The Soviet Union is expected to bring up the satellite topic again in a Korea-Soviet science ministers' meeting in May.

France and Britain are also interested, he said.

Korea has set a principle that it will choose the bidder who can best serve the interests of Korea, such as transferring related technology, he said.

South Informs North It Will Refuse Letter

SK1904113191 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1045 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Today, Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the North Korean Red Cross Society, sent a telephone message to Kim Sang-hyop, president of the Korea National Red Cross, and informed him that two liaison officials will be sent tomorrow morning to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom to accept House Speaker Pak Chun-kyu's letter to give to Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Yi Song-ho also revealed that a letter to be handed over, addressed to the chairman of the National Federation of Peasants' Associations of Korea (Chonnonng) at the request of the Central Committee of the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea, will be delivered.

Regarding this, President Kim Sang-hyop sent a telephone message to his North Korean counterpart, Yi Song-ho, and notified him that according to the position of not exchanging letters that are likely to result in political disputes between the North and South, the South side will not accept the North side's letters.

Comment on Nuclear Inspection of North Issue

SK1904034191 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 19 Apr 91 p 1

[Correspondent Song Hui-yong report from Tokyo]

[Text] Kang Sok-chu, North Korean first vice minister of foreign affairs, on 18 April discussed the issue of accepting inspection of nuclear facilities with the International Atomic Energy Agency. He said North Korea

will never accept inspection of nuclear facilities unless the United States guarantees that it would not pose a threat to North Korea with its nuclear weapons.

Vice Minister Kang emphasized this in an exclusive interview with the Japanese MAINICHI SHIMBUN in Pyongyang on 18 April. In addition, he said when North Korea signed the nuclear nonproliferation agreement in 1985, it was designed to have the United States withdraw its nuclear military equipment from South Korea. This is the first time a North Korean high-level official has mentioned that North Korea's objective in signing the nuclear nonproliferation agreement was to promote the United States to withdraw its nuclear military equipment.

He said: I know well that there is an obligation to accept inspection of nuclear facilities if we join the International Atomic Energy Agency. The United States should know, at the same time, that there is a stipulation in the agreement that no state should pose a threat to another state with nuclear weapons.

In addition, he asserted that security in the Asian region should be guaranteed by the people of Asia. He also indirectly expressed his displeasure with the plan to set up a consultative organization among the five powerful states in the Asian and Pacific region, which President Gorbachev announced in the previous day's speech at the Japanese national assembly.

'Unified' Korea Rice Policy Debated 'Again'

SK1904071491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0649 GMT
19 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 19 (YONHAP)—A debate heats up again among working-level officials of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry over the need to draw up a new rice policy that assumes Korea is unified to meet expected demand from the North.

A recent barter of South Korean rice for North Korean coal and cement has prompted a debate on the nation's rice production policy.

This is not wholly new. Working-level government officials drafted a plan a year ago based on a united Korea, but retracted it after being told from above it was not desirable to make a plan on the basis of an assumption.

North Korea seeks to buy 500,000 tons of rice, out of 97 million tons stored in silos in South Korea, and further orders are expected to help reduce the expensive stockpile.

Existing rice policy takes account of only the southern population and should be improved in consideration of rice production in North Korea, production capability in the South, and land development, officials championing a new rice policy say.

If the rice trade becomes regular, they project, North Korea will need 500,000 tons a year and perhaps twice as much if it has a poor harvest.

The state-run Korea Rural Economy Institute says that it is necessary for the South to set aside 5 million tons of rice in preparation for unification of the Korean peninsula.

Although the 97 million tons now in storage may meet North Korean needs over three years, there must be a long-term plan to meet further demand in the North, it said.

South Korea produced 270 million tons of rice last year and consumed the equivalent.

Envoys See UN Membership This Year as Assured

SK1904034891 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
19 Apr 91 p 2

[By staff reporter Sin Hak-nim: "Seoul's UN Admission Is a Formality—'China Won't Embarrass Itself With Veto'"]

[Text] Chiefs of Korean diplomatic missions abroad believe that Korea's admission to the United Nations is a matter of formality rather than one of options.

They assert that the government should push ahead with its plan to apply for United Nations membership this year, though China has not made public its position on the issue.

Seoul's bid to enter the U.N. is a major topic at the on-going annual meeting of some 90 chiefs of Korea's overseas diplomatic missions.

During a debate on major diplomatic goals, a considerable number of ambassadors asserted that the government does not have to worry about China exercising its veto.

"If China vetoes our application for U.N. membership in defiance of worldwide support for our entry, it would embarrass them in the eyes of the international community," an ambassador was quoted as having told the session.

Those senior diplomats said that Korea's admission will be realized next year if her application is voted down this year.

The Korean government already declared in a memorandum distributed to U.N. member countries that it will apply for full membership before the General Assembly opens on Sept. 17.

A few mission chiefs, however, called for more efforts to win the support of China, expressing concern over "wishful thinking" about Beijing's attitude in regard to Korea's admission into the international organization.

More substantial debate than ever before about U.N. membership and other major issues is under way in the annual meeting of mission chiefs across the world, a ranking Foreign Ministry official said.

"New ideas" for Korea's entry into the U.N. were suggested during the meetings," the official said. However, he did not elaborate.

Following two days of plenary sessions, these senior diplomats were divided into five groups on theme topics for detailed consultations on U.N. entry and four other major issues. The four other issues are economic cooperation with socialist countries, the integration of the European Community, the Gulf situation and the embryonic Asia and Pacific Economic Cooperation.

The detailed consultation sessions on the specific issues were held for the first time this year to pool "fresh opinions" from the mission chiefs in addition to a conference on regional groups, the official explained.

Despite the tight schedule for preparations for Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok attended the sessions in order to put vigor into the debate. He also called upon all participants to take the floor more than once during the conference.

During the sessions on economic and trade affairs on Wednesday, ambassadors to countries in Latin America and Africa called for an increase in economic assistance to developing countries.

As for trade issues, some participants pointed out that local businesses are still engaged in excessive competition abroad.

The quality of businessmen assigned to foreign countries is lower than in the past, they said.

They also pointed out the Korean trading companies tend to seek short-term benefits without mapping out long-term plans for market exploration.

The conference of regional groups will be held today and tomorrow.

Businesses Plan for Industry Complex in PRC

*SK1904045191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0252 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Seoul, April 19 (YONHAP)—South Korea is expected to open an industrial complex in China in 1993 for Korean businesses, according to an official of the state-run Korea Land Development Corporation.

Construction will start on a 990,000-square-meter site in Tianjin or Qingdao next year for completion the following year, the official told a forum on investment in China and Central and South America at the headquarters of the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry Thursday.

The corporation would send a fact-finding team to China in May to look at candidate sites, he said.

In November, the government sent a preparatory team at Beijing's request to search out possible locations for the industrial complex, which will cost 15 billion to 20 billion won (20.7 million to 27.6 million U.S. dollars).

Korea will supply the telecommunications, roads and other basic facilities for the estate, and is considering construction of apartment-type factories, he said.

The government is also considering building industrial complexes in Jamaica and Dominica as a result of reports from teams dispatched to the region recently.

Foreign Investment Projects Approved

*SK1904032991 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 19 Apr 91 p 6*

[Text] The government has given the go-ahead to 26 companies from six foreign countries for their nine investment projects in Korea worth \$63.2 million, the Ministry of Finance said yesterday.

Under official approval, G.E. Pacific Private Ltd. of Singapore and Korea Kumho Petrochemical Co. will set up a 50:50 joint venture, named Kumho GE Chemicals Inc. with a paid-in capital of \$11.1 million.

Three U.S. companies, including Sit/Kim Corp., will invest \$6.2 million in the setup of KODICO II Venture Capital Investment Partnership, a 50:50 joint venture between the U.S. firms and the Korea Development Investment Corp.

International Finance Corp. (IFC) and six other alien companies will invest a total of \$12.05 million in Korea Investment & Finance Corp., and Aetna International Inc. of the United States will pour \$7.05 million into Dongbu Aetna Life Insurance Co.

Societe General of France will purchase a 47.5 percent stake (\$5.9 million) of the Korean French Banking Corp., whereas Barclays Bank PLC and three other British companies will own a 50 percent share (\$5.2 million) of Korea Merchant Banking Corp.

IFC and six other alien companies will make an investment worth \$5.3 million to acquire a 43.1 percent stake of the Korea Development Investment Corp., and two Danish companies, including Denmark Dairy Development Corp., will spend \$9 million to control a 91.5 percent equity of Korean Danish Dairy Co.

Imports of Home Appliances Increase in 1990

*SK1904061791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0604 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Seoul, April 19 (YONHAP)—South Korean imports of home appliances such as color television sets and vacuum cleaners sharply increased last year, business sources said Friday.

Korea imported about 22,100 washing machines last year, up 154 percent from the previous year, but the cost was 230 percent higher, the sources said.

An estimated 68,400 color televisions were introduced last year, up 44 percent, and imports of video cassette recorders [vcr's] climbed 30 percent to 61,800. Some 6,460 dish washers were imported, up 146 percent, and 267,700 vacuum cleaners, up 128 percent.

Most of the appliances came from Japan, the United States, Germany and Italy, according to the sources.

Imports of U.S.-made washing machines amounted to 10,500, up 345 percent from 2,370 in 1989, and those of U.S.-made vcr's soared 935 percent to 4,850 from 470.

Imports of Japanese-made gas ovens skyrocketed to 3,530 from 40 in 1989, and of Japanese-made dish washers to 360 from 20.

Dish washers and vacuum cleaners from Italy gained 2,200 percent and 800 percent, respectively, while German-made gas ovens soared 340 percent to 2,960, they added.

Burma

Delegation Returns From ESCAP Meeting in Seoul

*BK1904051991 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation led by U Ohn Gyaw, director general of the Political Affairs Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, returned to Yangon [Rangoon] this afternoon by air after attending the 47th meeting of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Seoul in the Republic of Korea.

The Myanmar delegation was welcomed at the airport by directors general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and family members of the delegation.

The Myanmar delegation is composed of departmental officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Planning and Finance, the Ministry of Industry-1, and the Ministry of Labor.

U Ohn Gyaw held talks with officials on bilateral matters while in Seoul, after the meeting.

More Insurgents Surrender Countrywide 3-13 Mar

*BK1904080991 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] More members of various insurgent organizations who have come to realized their wrongdoing and have given up the policy of armed struggle have surrendered along with arms and ammunition at various military camps. The following surrenders took place between 3 and 13 March 1991:

Northern Military Command: Captain Nan Zein Tu, deputy commander of the 1st KIA [Kachin Independence Army] Battalion, surrendered at Mogaung garrison through the township law and order restoration council while Private Hpa Thaung from the 3d Battalion surrendered at Myitkyina garrison through the Hsikyarpur village law and order restoration council and Pvts. Aung Thaung and Win Myint surrendered along with one carbine and one M-21 assault rifle at Doi Phonying garrison. Pvt. Tu Gyaw from the 6th Battalion surrendered at Myitkyina Garrison while Pvt. Ma Tabawng Jana from the 7th Battalion surrendered at Sumprabum garrison. Nurse Ma Lu Nan from the 254th Battalion surrendered at Waingmaw garrison and Pvts. Tu Tu alias Tu Tu Aung, Thein Win alias Nyunt Lwin, and Saw Win surrendered with one M-22 assault rifle and two M-21 assault rifles at Myhothit garrison. Pvt. Khun Tun Yi from the 253d Battalion surrendered at Bhamo.

Eastern Military Command: Pvt. Marayu alias An Nyein from the KNLP [expansion not known] surrendered at Loikaw garrison while Pvt. Ai Maung from the SUA [Shan United Army] surrendered with one M-16 rifle at the frontline camp of the 65th Infantry Regiment and Pvt. Sein Dat from the 98th Battalion surrendered with one M-16 rifle to the 225th Regiment. Pvts. Sai Yun and

Sai Yi from the SURA [Shan United Revolutionary Army] 22th Battalion surrendered with one M-22 rifle and one M-16 rifle at Kyotada garrison.

Southeast Military Command: Pvt. Maung Myint from the KNU [Karen National Union] 10th Battalion surrendered at Tharabun garrison while Ye Gyan alias Kyaw Gyi, deputy security officer from Tagaungbo, and Pvts. Than Zaw and Han Win Aung surrendered with one BA-72, one AK-47, one M-22 rifle, one carbine, and two BA-63 rifles at Letpadan garrison. Myint U, secretary of Tagaungbo, surrendered at Shwegun garrison while Pvt. Naing U from the 6th Brigade surrendered at Mudon garrison.

Pvt. Than Naing from the ABSDF [All Burma Students Democratic Front] surrendered at Tharagun garrison and Nai Thaung Nyunt, officer of the NMSP [New Mon State Party] for northern Ye, surrendered with one homemade gun at Mergui garrison.

Southern Military Command: Pvt. Saw Hla Byu from the KNU camp in Manerplaw surrendered to the Yedashe law and order restoration council while Pvt. Mu Sun from the 8th Battalion surrendered at Thanbaw garrison.

Those who returned to the legal fold were warmly welcomed by authorities concerned at their respective garrisons.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Five Foreign Boats Detained in Economic Zone

*BK1604101491 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES
in English 15 Apr 91 p 13*

[Text] Kuala Terengganu, Sun.—Five foreign vessels, including a Vietnamese boat, with a total of 99 fishermen were detained by the Royal Malaysian Navy while fishing in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) two days ago.

Four of the boats, which had an all-Thai crew aged between 15 and 35, were registered in Indonesia.

Fisheries Department Marine Unit head Abdul Hamid Shukur said the boats were rounded up by two navy patrol craft, K.D. [Royal Ship] Badek and K.D. Musytari, between 8 am and 9 am on Friday in the EEZ.

The first boat with 21 crew members was detained at 8 am about 128 nautical miles from the coast followed by the second with 22 crew members about 8.40 am in the same vicinity.

About 12 minutes later, the navy patrol craft detained another two boats with a total of 46 crew members also in the same area.

All the crew members are expected to be charged under Section 15 (1) (a) of the Fisheries Act soon.

Encik Hamid said at 9 am, the navy rounded up another boat, a 21-tonne Vietnamese fishing vessel with 10 crew members on board about 60 nautical miles off Terengganu coast.

Its crew members, aged between 21 and 30, have [been] detained and are expected to be charged soon.

Mahathir Sees 'Developed' Nation by 2020

BK1804084491 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir says the people's response to his vision of a developed Malaysia by the year 2020 has been very good. Everybody wants to know what role he can play in achieving the goal. The prime minister is confident that the target will be reached if the people work hard. He urges every Malaysian whether he is a businessman, worker, or administrator to play his part to help Malaysia achieve it. The government can only provide the direction and the guidelines toward achieving the goal. He is prepared to listen to all sectors on how to attain the target. Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir was replying to questions by reporters at his Hari Raya [Id al-Fitr] open house in Kuala Lumpur.

UMNO Sets Up Branches in Gaya Division, Sabah

BK1504105591 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 14 Apr 91 p 2

[Text] Kota Kinabalu, Sat.—Sabah UMNO [United Malays National Organization] has set up 52 branches in the Gaya Division with 5,800 registered members. Official opening of the branches will be done in stages until May 15.

The division's pro-tem committee secretary, Saidon Haji Kadis, Told the NEW STRAITS TIMES after attending the opening of the party's branch for Kampung Air here, that many more members would be joining soon.

Encik Saidon said the Kampung Air UMNO branch was the first to be officially opened in the Gaya Division. The branch, which is in Kota Kinabalu, now has 189 registered members.

The party expects the numbers to increase before the divisional general meeting in August.

The official opening of the Kampung Air branch was conducted recently by the divisional pro-tem committee chairman Datuk Haji Dzulkifli Datuk Haji Abdul Hamid. He also handed over appointment letters to the branch committee officials and spoke on the functions and responsibilities of the office bearers.

The branch chairman is Haji Mohmood Yahya.

Encik Saidon said the division had also opened its office at Log F, 3rd Floor, General Post Office headquarters, here.

Singapore

Deputy Premier Lee To Visit PRC, Hong Kong

BK1804121691 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Brigadier-General Lee Hsien Loong will make an official visit to China on 2d to 15th of next month. This is the first visit [words indistinct] since China and Singapore established diplomatic relations last year. Gen. Lee, who is also the minister for trade and industry, will call on Chinese leaders in Beijing.

Gen. Lee and his delegation will explore ways to strengthen cooperation between Singapore and China, especially economic ties. Besides Beijing he will visit Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, (?Kunming) and Hangzhou.

Gen. Lee will be in Hong Kong between 15 and 17 of next month on a private visit.

Work on Optical Fibre Submarine Cable To Start

BK1804152291 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Text] Work on a [Singapore] \$1.4 billion optical fibre submarine cable will begin in the last quarter of this year. Measuring 17,000 km long, the cable system will link Singapore and France and will be one of the longest in the world. It will be completed by mid-1994.

The vice president of France Telecom says the system has 13 landing points, including Singapore, Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. It will provide users with faster and more accurate transmission voice, image, and data signals. A second cable link is needed because telecommunications traffic between France and Singapore is growing. Presently, they are linked by satellite and an older submarine cable system. The two countries are also testing another service, the integrated services digital network, ISDN. It is expected to be available by next month.

Cambodia

Hun Sen To Visit Tokyo for Medical Check-Up

BK1904050191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Apr 91 p A2

[By Kawi Chongkitthawon]

[Text] Tokyo—Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen is scheduled to arrive here tomorrow on an "unofficial" visit for a week-long medical check-up, an informed source said yesterday.

Hun Sen will be taken to a well-known private hospital after his arrival at Narita Airport tomorrow evening, the source said.

During a Cambodian peace talks in Paris last December, Hun Sen fell ill and was hospitalized. The source said Hun Sen will have a thorough medical check-up and will be "placed under the control of medical experts". His visit was previously scheduled for earlier this year.

His trip was planned to coincide with the visit of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev here to "lessen the sensitivity and controversy surrounding Hun Sen's visit," according to sources.

Japan does not recognize the Hun Sen government, and has supported the three-faction coalition Cambodian government fighting to topple Phnom Penh since 1978.

The Phnom Penh prime minister will become the second Indochinese leader to undergo medical check-up in Japan. Last year, Laotian Prime Minister Kaysone Phomvihane had a medical examination here.

During his one-week stay, the sources said, Hun Sen is expected to hold talks on the Cambodian issue with senior officials from the Foreign Ministry.

The source said a Bangkok-based Japanese diplomat is scheduled to arrive here the same day to facilitate Hun Sen's visit.

His medical expenses will be partially paid by Japan as "humanitarian aid", the sources said.

The sources said Japan is determined to solve the Cambodian problem and is willing to double its humanitarian aid to Phnom Penh through the United Nations next year.

Last month, Japan provided Bt [baht] 34 million worth of aid to United Nations and non-governmental organizations to be used to relieve the suffering of the Cambodian people under the control of the Vietnam-backed government. It was the first time that Japan provided direct humanitarian aid to Phnom Penh.

Tokyo has become increasingly active in the search for a peace settlement to the Cambodian conflict after hosting Cambodian peace talks last June.

Japan recently invited Son Sann, leader of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, here for a week-long stay to discuss the Cambodian issue and Japan's peace proposal to supplement the UN plan, which was drawn up by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

The sources said the Permanent Five have given a favourable response to Japan's idea. The sources said that both Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Son Sann have expressed support for the Japanese plan, which seeks to penalize any Cambodian faction violating the ceasefire. The plan also calls for the establishment of a committee

to explore concrete measures to prevent the return to power of the Khmer Rouge.

The Khmer Rouge, the sources pointed out, are opposed to Japan's supplemental peace plan idea, saying that the UN peace plan is good enough.

Although Phnom Penh has given a favourable response to Japan's ideas, it has yet to express its support publicly. The sources said during Hun Sen's stay in Tokyo, Japan would seek Hun Sen's support on the proposal before the factions meet again in Jakarta in May.

'Solemn Meeting' Marks Victory Anniversary

*BK1804114191 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 17 Apr 91*

[Text] On the morning of 17 April, at the Basak festival hall, a solemn meeting was held to mark the 16th anniversary of our people's victory over the U.S. imperialists and their lackey state authorities.

Presiding over the occasion were, among others, Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Mat Ly, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of both the National Assembly and the party Central Committee's Control Commission; Comrade General Tie Banh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and defense minister; Comrade Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairwoman of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions; Comrade General Sin Song, alternate member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and interior minister; and Comrade Sim Ka, alternate member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the Phnom Penh municipal party committee.

Also honoring the meeting were comrade leading cadres from party establishments, state authorities, mass organizations, comrade ministers and deputy ministers, directors general, cadres and personnel from the central ministries and services, the Armed Forces, people's police, and nationalities, and about 1,000 people in Phnom Penh City. Comrade ambassadors and representatives of various friendly embassies accredited to the State of Cambodia were also present on this occasion.

Speaking at the meeting, Comrade Chea Soth stressed:

[Begin Chea Soth recording] We meet here today in a happy atmosphere and in a spirit of national unity at a solemn meeting to mark the 16th anniversary of our people's 17 April historic victory over imperialists and lackey state authorities. Today's meeting is being held at a time when our people have just celebrated the traditional new year and at a time when the people's forces are actively carrying out national defense tasks and scoring great victories, particularly the resounding feats of arms of our Armed Forces and people over the Pol Pot

tripartite genocidal alliance on battlefields along the border in the northwest and western parts of the motherland in this 1991 dry season.

On this solemn occasion, on behalf of the party, government, front, and the Cambodian people throughout the country, and in my own name, I would like to express respectful and loving sentiments and most profound admiration for male and female combatants of the Armed Forces and beloved compatriots for their efforts to carry out tasks and valiantly and courageously fight to prevent the genocidal Pol Pot regime from returning to massacre the Cambodian people for the second time and for the cause of the rebirth of the motherland and people.

Dear comrades and friends, ladies and gentlemen: Recalling the events taking place 16 years ago, we still remember that 17 April was our people's brilliant victory day in the cause of liberating the land from the new type of domination by imperialists and lackey state authorities when we won the right to determine for ourselves the destiny of our country and nation. That was the victory of the sacrifice and protracted struggle of our Army and people, who have sacrificed fresh blood and flesh and determinedly fight in the cause to defend the beloved Angkor motherland. That was also the result of the ties of solidarity and cooperation among the army and people in the three fraternal countries—Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.

The 18 March 1970 coup d'état, staged by the U.S. imperialists to topple the Sihanoukist monarchy and prop up the Lon Nol-Sirikmatak state authorities as their puppets, was to control Cambodia and create favorable conditions for serving the aggressive plan against Vietnam, particularly the southern part of Vietnam. Imperialists and their lackeys launched a large scale offensive, using modern B-52 aircraft, to destroy property and massacre the Cambodian people most savagely and brutally. These savage and brutal activities by the U.S. imperialists and lackey state authorities further enraged the Cambodian people and Armed Forces. The latter rose up, shoulder to shoulder, and determinedly united with the fraternal Vietnamese and Lao people, along with assistance and support from friends near and far and progressive, peace- and justice-loving people the world over, to fight most vigorously, resolutely, and determinedly against this common enemy.

Revolutionary victories kept growing from day to day. The ranks of the Armed Forces and Cambodian nationalists swelled and vigorously advanced the struggle. And the struggle full of the Cambodian people's lofty sacrifice was crowned with a brilliant victory. On 17 April 1975, we toppled the Lon Nol regime and ended the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression, and state control fell into the Cambodian people's hands. The Cambodian people were hoping that they would have the opportunity to rectify the consequences of war, build the motherland, and build a new life in peace and security.

However, events inside the country completely changed against the people's hope. The Pol Pot opportunists stole the revolutionary gains of the people and revolutionary fighters and openly betrayed the Cambodian nation and people. They transformed the Cambodian people into slaves instead. They betrayed the party's leadership and fell into narrow-minded patriotism. They implemented the most reactionary policy, bringing genocide to their own people. For over three years, under the Pol Pot group's dictatorship, social infrastructures were destroyed from top to bottom; over 3 million innocent Cambodian people and genuine nationalists were massacred.

Faced with such an administrative system, all the forces that love the nation and the Cambodian revolution valiantly rose up; rallied to form the Kampuchean United Front for National Salvation; and adopted a 12-point policy appealing to the entire people to rise up and struggle against the genocidal Pol Pot regime. With the timely and effective assistance of the fraternal Vietnamese People's Army, our Cambodian people's struggle scored complete victory on 7 January 1979; Phnom Penh was liberated and the entire Cambodian people spared the genocidal Pol Pot regime. A new state was born on the Angkor motherland: the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

Dear Comrades, friends, ladies, and gentlemen:

In addition to the historic 17 April 1979 victory, our party was rebuilt to lead the people, defend independence and freedom, and rebuild the country.

Lately, although the general situation inside and outside the country has undergone rapid changes, the Cambodian revolution continues to develop and progress. What is remarkable is the mastery of our Armed Forces and the establishment among our ranks of a firm confidence in our own strength. Faced with a changing and complex situation, our party is firm and has a correct policy. It has rallied the entire people's united forces and is its own master; it is making firm advances along the path opened up by the fifth party congress and the second national conference of cadres. We have thus been able to solve every issue and firmly preserve the social and national gains scored by the party, Armed Forces, and our people nationwide in the past 12-plus years. This is the most precious experience of our revolution, experience which all of us have understood and used as the basis for our determination to carry out political tasks in 1991.

It is true that we have made the above-mentioned progress. However, in the next phases of the revolutionary struggle, we still face many complex difficulties in resolving two essential conflicts: the most resolute and acute conflict between us and the enemy, and the conflict between the requirements of the people's national reconciliation and the economic potentials of the people.

For the first conflict, we have clearly seen that the enemy's strategic maneuvers toward the Cambodian revolution have to this day remained unchanged. In all circumstances and hidden under every form, the

enemy's goal is to topple us or to at least weaken us, particularly our state authorities and Armed Forces, in order to topple us in the end. Because they have failed to topple us through purely military means, the enemies have dreamed of attempts to topple us using a political solution. We have genuine goodwill for peace and national reconciliation, but the enemies have exploited this goodwill to reverse the current situation and attempt to bring back to Cambodia the previous oppressive and genocidal regime, which our people have already fought against and toppled.

Thus, on the diplomatic front, the enemies have made efforts to slander our goodwill and dupe public opinion under the cover of false love for the nation and for peace. On the military battlefield, however, the enemies have intensified activities to oppose and destroy the people. In fact, in the first three months of 1991, the three reactionary Cambodian groups escalated the war along the border in the northwest and western parts of the country. They shelled townships, monasteries, and war refugee camps causing loss of people's lives and property. However, all these barbarous activities were seriously defeated by our Armed Forces and people.

In brief, although they talk about ending the war quickly, in deed the enemies have clearly shown their dirty and dark goal. Thus the struggle to resolve the first conflict is still tense, complex, and resolute. But we are convinced that the final victory is on the side of the revolution and our people.

For the second struggle, in which the country is at war, it obviously faces problems and requires time and patience along with cooperation in order to resolve the conflict.

Dear comrades, friends, ladies, and gentlemen: The toppling of the genocidal Pol Pot regime and successive setbacks to this group's perfidious maneuvers, the establishment of a new state—a genuine state of the people—as well as our people's rebirth and the development and progress of our country and nation have not pleased the tripartite genocidal alliance and ruling circles in a small number of countries that adhere to a hostile policy against the Cambodian people. On the contrary, the people's rebirth and our nation's all-round success in national construction and defense have inflicted pain and caused these people to feverishly look for maneuvers to save the genocidal Pol Pot regime and return it to Cambodia. This is one thing the Cambodian people cannot accept.

The Cambodian people pledge to resolutely struggle to prevent the genocidal regime's return in Cambodia; will always remember the savage and brutal crimes of this regime; and will transform this raging hatred and anger into a united force to fight for the cause of defending and building our fine Angkor motherland toward progress and prosperity. The victories scored in the past 12 years were also the results of the common efforts of the entire party, the entire Armed Forces, and the entire people, who have done their best, physically and morally, to fight

as successors of the tradition to struggle and in the 17 April spirit—the legacy of our ancestors' sacrifices.

In the face of the enemy's strategic maneuvers, which remain unchanged, the struggle between us and the enemy will escalate and become most acute and resolute militarily, politically, and diplomatically. Thus, 17 April is a day our people should praise the great deeds of cadres, combatants, and people who have made noble sacrifices in the cause of struggling to liberate the country, nation, and motherland. This is also a good opportunity for all of us to recall lessons in fresh blood and flesh to defend and correctly implement the policy and learn lessons on great national unity and international solidarity, particularly the relations of international solidarity between the three countries—Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos—and the solidarity among the three countries, the Soviet Union, and friendly countries the world over.

On this solemn occasion, on behalf of the party, government, front, and the entire Cambodian people, I would like to express profound thanks to the parties, governments, and people of Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union, and fraternal countries; friends near and far; and progressive international organizations the world over for providing assistance and support to the just and correct cause to struggle of the Cambodian people in the past, at present, and in the future.

Finally, I appeal to cadres, party members, male and female combatants, and people throughout the country to clearly realize the 17 April victory in order to heighten the spirit of responsibility toward the people and the motherland's destiny; be the masters in fighting the enemies; believe in their own strength; and understand the enemy maneuvers and the threat to the lives of the people and nation. This is in order to heighten the spirit of responsibility toward the destiny and future of the motherland and pledge to unhesitatingly fight in order to constantly advance the revolutionary cause. We are the ones administering the country. We have the wisdom and goodwill; our cause to struggle is correct and just, because it is the cause defending the lives of the nation and people. Although the nation and country face the enemy's destructive war, we have made efforts to restore and advance the economy and the daily life of the entire society and nation to this day.

The important point in this most difficult phase of the struggle is that we should firmly grasp the evolution of the situation in and outside the country; firmly grasp the political tasks; unite and cooperate under the party's leadership; trust one another; and implement tasks together under the party's leadership. Doing this, we firmly believe that we will be able to maintain the situation. Our wisdom will not be in vain. No influence can force us to do things which are contrary to our principled struggle.

Thus our aim and determination in the period ahead is to continue the struggle by holding aloft the five banners

of the revolution: peace and national reconciliation, national independence and sovereignty, the people's right to self-determination, defense of revolutionary gains, and opposition to the genocidal Pol Pot regime's return.

We should strive to continue to strengthen our forces in every field. This is the important and key requirement for the short and long term period. Maintain firm internal unity and implement well all party political tasks. Along with this, increase the special relations of solidarity and cooperation between the three countries of Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos. Strive to increase relations with all countries the world over. Increase good conscience and cooperation with various international organizations aimed at creating international conditions favorable to the construction and defense of the Cambodian motherland.

In the immediate future, phases of the various campaigns in 1991 should be well carried out. These are, namely: the campaign to maintain the military and security situation; the campaign to fight against and oppose negativism in society, intensify thrift, tighten discipline in organizing and implementing party lines and principles and state laws and strengthen the spirit of responsibility toward work; and the production campaign. Cooperate in building up the state budget; realize the common difficulty of the economy and pessimism; and work together to solve every problem.

All levels and services, each unit, each locality, and each individual should heighten his spirit of responsibility and courageously strive to carry out activities worthy of being the successors and eminent children of the Angkorian Cambodian ancestors, and create greater results to expand the 17 April victory and the 7 January victory in the cause of the Cambodian motherland advancing toward prosperity and glory. [end recording]

This ceremony ended in a happy atmosphere imbued with the spirit of unity under the leadership of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party.

Commentary Criticizes SRV Envoy's Remarks

BK1904080391 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Station commentary: "The Vietnamese Aggressors Cannot Conceal Their Evil Face as the Aggressors Against Cambodia Through Their Deceitful Maneuvers"]

[Text] Recently, the representative of the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors at the United Nations said shamelessly once again that Vietnam could not impose the settlement of the war in Cambodia on their puppet-lackeys. This statement is an absurd lie.

The Vietnamese enemy cannot deceive anyone regarding its responsibility for the war of aggression against Cambodia. The Cambodian people and the world in general

know well that the Vietnamese Hanoi authorities have been the aggressors against Cambodia since the end of 1978 and have installed their puppets in Phnom Penh for use as a screen to conceal their acts of aggression and occupation in Cambodia. The Vietnamese puppet-lackeys in Phnom Penh are just the parrots which only repeat the orders of their bosses. They know nothing. All internal and external affairs are arranged and managed by the Vietnamese.

On the military field, the Vietnamese troops, including those disguised as the puppet soldiers and the newcomers, are fighting face to face against the Cambodian national resistance forces on all battlefields. It is because they have hidden all categories of forces for fighting and commanding their puppets in Cambodia that the Vietnamese aggressors have in a frenzy refused to accept the peace plan of the five UNSC permanent members and launched all kinds of maneuvers to block the meeting between the four Cambodian factions and the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] in late April.

The Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors have tried hard to prevent their war of aggression in Cambodia from being settled comprehensively through political means.

The Cambodian people inside and outside the country and the world community have seen clearly that the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia has not been settled until now because the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors have refused to accept the document of the five permanent members. The Vietnamese aggressors refuse to accept this document because they are afraid that the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] and the UN Peacekeeping Force will drag them out of Cambodia.

The Vietnamese aggressors are the root cause while the Phnom Penh puppets are Vietnam's out-and-out lackeys having neither the right nor the power to make any decision by themselves. They only say anything at the Vietnamese's order.

The Cambodian people and the world community want to quickly end the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia so that Cambodia will regain genuine independence and peace and Southeast Asia will enjoy long-lasting peace, security, and stability. Therefore, they will not allow the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets to play any trick at will. They will certainly continue pressuring the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and their puppet-lackeys until they accept the five permanent members' document, allowing UNTAC and the UN Peacekeeping Force to supervise the total withdrawal of Vietnamese aggressor troops from Cambodia.

'News Analysis' of SRV Troop Presence

BK1904062191 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 18 Apr 91

["News analysis": "What Is the Truth About the Number and the Quality of the Occupying Hanoi Vietnamese Aggressor Troops in Cambodia?"]

[Text] 1. How many soldiers of the Hanoi Vietnamese are actually committing aggression against and occupying Cambodia? There are various views on this issue. Here they are.

First view: The world does not know the exact number of occupying Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor troops in Cambodia. However, people agree that, in truth, there are still Hanoi Vietnamese forces that continue to commit aggression against and occupy Cambodia. Furthermore, in the documents successively presented by the UN Security Council [UNSC] permanent members in 1990, particularly in the 28 August 1990 document and the 26 November 1990 document, a clause clearly states that UN forces should supervise the withdrawal of all foreign aggressor forces from Cambodia.

Second view: People estimate the number of Hanoi Vietnamese soldiers still occupying Cambodia at about 40,000 men who are there all the time.

Third view: Some people think that there are about 30,000 Vietnamese troops stationed in Cambodia all the time. This excludes the number of Hanoi Vietnamese troops that are moved in and out of the Cambodian battlefields.

Fourth view: Others think that there are about 10,000 occupying Hanoi Vietnamese troops in Cambodia all the time. Apart from this, there are Vietnamese troops dispatched to Cambodia in stages to serve the battlefield needs and prop up the puppet regime, Vietnam's lackey, in districts and provinces.

In sum, these four views clearly indicate that Hanoi Vietnamese troops in Cambodia still continue to commit aggression against and occupy Cambodia. This is the truth. It is contrary to the claim the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their accomplices have made in their deceitful propaganda according to which all these troops were already withdrawn from Cambodia in September 1989.

2. The view of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors, their puppets and lackeys, and accomplices on occupying Vietnamese aggressor forces in Cambodia:

The Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors, their puppets and lackeys, and a handful of their accomplices have loudly and unashamedly shouted that all occupying Vietnamese aggressor troops have been withdrawn from Cambodia since September 1989 and that the puppet regime of Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim—Vietnam's lackeys—which Vietnam has set up, is an

independent regime which fully administers and controls the country. They have shouted again and again that the current war in Cambodia is a civil war, and so on. Their goal is to dupe people and destroy the UN documents to carry on the aggression and occupation of Cambodia forever in accordance with their Indochinese federation strategy.

This view of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors, their puppets and lackeys, and accomplices is in complete contrast to the general view around the world. It is contrary to the real situation on the battlefield in Cambodia.

3. The view of the Cambodian people and our Cambodian national resistance forces:

The Cambodian people and our Cambodian national resistance forces also have a view on the number of occupying Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressor troops in Cambodia. Based on real fighting on the battlefield in Cambodia, we have even more right to talk about the number of occupying Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor troops in Cambodia because:

1. We have been the direct victims of the act of aggression of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors, territorial expansionists, and exterminators of the Cambodian race, for over 12 years. We are still victims to this day.

2. We have been constantly on the battlefield and constantly fighting the Vietnamese enemy every hour and every day for over 12 years. We do know about the number of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressor troops; their quality; their strong and weak points; their permanently-based troops and their mobile troops; their true nature; their activities in every field; their military, political, economic, and psychological propaganda; the K-5 recruitment plan; the arrest and massacre of people; and strategic villages the Vietnamese enemy has set up through fencing and planting mines around people's houses to prevent the house's occupants from going out to earn their living, and thus starving to death by themselves. We do know about all this.

Our troops are everywhere and are constantly aware of this. We have many sources who know about this real situation. We have people everywhere who know about the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their puppets and lackeys all the time. We have all kinds of Cambodian soldiers who were captured by us, joined us, escaped from the battlefield to live among the people, or fled home. These soldiers know about the situation of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their puppets and lackeys, their numbers, and their strong and weak points on each battlefield. They know about the number of reinforcement Vietnamese troops brought in from Vietnam and the number of those soldiers who can no longer fight and were sent back to Vietnam. These Cambodian soldiers know about the movement of Vietnamese units from one place to another because they witness this themselves on their own battlefields.

As for Vietnam's puppet state authority officials, particularly those in villages and communes who have joined us or were captured by us in various places throughout the country, they all tell us about the situation of the Vietnamese enemy in their own localities.

We have also captured Vietnamese war prisoners during fighting or when these soldiers deserted and were in isolation. These Vietnamese war prisoners have told us quite a bit. Even a number of foreign reporters interviewed these Vietnamese war prisoners after September 1989, the month the Vietnamese enemy aggressors loudly announced that they had withdrawn all their aggressor forces from Cambodia.

Based on the above sources, we have ample reason to express our view on the number of Hanoi Vietnamese forces still occupying Cambodia, particularly at the end of the 13th dry season this year.

Following is the number of Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor forces occupying Cambodia.

I. Permanently-based troops:

Categories of Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor forces permanently based in Cambodia:

1. The total number of Vietnamese troops east of the Mekong River and east of National Route 4 is 15,000.
2. The total number of Vietnamese troops west of the Mekong River and west of Route 4 is 20,000.
3. The total number of Vietnamese troops on the Battambang-Route 10 battlefield is 6,000.
4. There is a total of 10,000 Vietnamese advisers permanently attached to the puppet general staff in Phnom Penh, the puppets' five military regions, divisions [angkapheap kang pol], regiments, and battalions.
5. The total number of Vietnamese technicians and experts on tanks, heavy artillery, heavy multiple rocket battery, aircraft, weapon repair, logistics and transport, bridge and building, and railroads is 50,000.
6. There are over 50,000 Vietnamese civilian advisers and technicians in various ministries in Phnom Penh, in the provinces and districts, down to communes and villages, including open and secret Vietnamese policemen.

In sum, the total number of occupying Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor forces, both military and civilian, operating in Cambodia is over 100,000; over 50,000 of them are soldiers.

II. Mobile forces:

Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor forces that are moved into Cambodia whenever offensives are launched, particularly in the 13th dry season this year:

1. There are between 10,000 and 15,000 troops moved among battlefields throughout the country.
2. There are between 7,000 and 10,000 troops dispatched to the Battambang-Route 10 battlefield.

III. Let us look at the number and quality of the occupying Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor forces in Cambodia:

Since the Hanoi Vietnamese blitzkrieg was completely defeated and since the Hanoi Vietnamese have been bogged down in a protracted strategy of guerrilla war and people's war of our Cambodian national resistance forces, from one year to another the number of Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor troops has decreased every season because of constant casualties on every battlefield throughout the country. As for their fighting spirit in particular, Vietnamese soldiers are afraid of the guerrilla war and our people's war. They do not want to enter the battlefield. Along with this, there is desertion when troops are dispatched to battlefields and once they are on the battlefields. The number of deserters keep increasing from one season to another.

The number of Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor troops available for fighting in Cambodia constantly is 50,000, excluding the number of 50,000 civilian Vietnamese aggressors occupying Cambodia. The average number of the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor troops dispatched to Cambodia for launching various offensives, is about 20,000.

In sum and on the average, the number of occupying Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor troops is over 70,000. To operate on all battlefields throughout Cambodia, this number is not sufficient. If these troops are spread out, they are very thin.

It is to be noted that in 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, and 1983, there were 200,000 Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor troops; that was already hard on Vietnam. Thus, when launching large- and medium-scale offensives, the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors must gather their troops from various battlefields and mass them on one or two battlefields where offensives are launched. The Vietnamese enemy is constantly faced by the conflict of spreading and massing troops and vice versa.

It is this situation that enables our national resistance forces to attack, disperse, and dislocate chunks of the puppet forces. This is why the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors have to bring in reinforcement troops from Vietnam; 300 or 400 soldiers were sent to assist one battlefield and 400 or 500 to another. Some battlefields even got 1,000 soldiers to assist in opposing us and maintaining the situation, and to prevent the puppet forces, particularly the puppet state authorities in villages, communes, districts, and provinces, from disintegrating.

It should be noted that:

1. On the average, there are 70,000 Vietnamese aggressor permanent and mobile troops. Over 80 percent of these 70,000 soldiers are new troops, conscripted from villages and schools and sent straight to battlefields. Therefore, among the more than 70,000 Vietnamese troops, the morale of 90

percent of them is low compared to the period before 1985. In fact, there is almost no morale left among the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressor troops. Only a fascist-type organizational structure remains in place.

2. As for the puppet troops of Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, Vietnam's lackeys, since 1989, less than 20 percent is left of the first generation of commanders, trained in Vietnam, Eastern Europe, and the Soviet Union. Of the second generation of commanders, over 80 percent have died or been wounded. Of simple soldiers, only about 20 percent of them received training lasting from 15 days to a month. The remaining 80 percent are conscripts from villages, schools, markets, monasteries, and even rice-fields. After conscription, these men were handed rifles and sent straight to battlefields.

The situation is such that the Vietnamese and puppet forces' number and quality are diminishing, and in the 12th rainy season in 1990, the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy went begging for over 20,000 tonnes of all types of heavy weaponry from the Soviet Union, particularly tanks, artillery pieces, and heavy multiple rocket batteries, to launch large-scale offensives in the 13th dry season this year.

In this 13th dry season, the Vietnamese enemy unleashed all these heavy weapons with the intention of extricating itself and improving to some degree its deteriorating situation through the diplomatic maneuver of destroying the UNSC document on settling Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia politically and comprehensively.

IV. On the over 1 million Vietnamese nationals, or Vietnamese settlers, in Cambodia:

Vietnamese nationals, called Vietnamese settlers, who have spread themselves in Cambodia, are forces the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors have organized to live in Cambodia as part of long-term strategic plan. In the current strategic plan, these are political, economic, and semi-armed forces. These are forces carrying out espionage activities to serve the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors' war to occupy Cambodia. In a long-term strategic plan, hordes of Vietnamese nationals would be systematically sent to Cambodia so that in three years there would be millions of Vietnamese nationals settling in Cambodia, and in five years there would be more millions of Vietnamese. This is to equal and exceeds the number of our Cambodian people.

This strategy is aimed at implementing a plan to use a military war to open up Cambodia and pave the way to introduce Vietnamese nationals to plunder Cambodian territory in every aspect and every field. This is annexing territory, people, the economy, and even the culture, literature, traditions, and customs of the Cambodian nation and people, the way the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy did in Kampuchea Kraom.

Looking thus at this strategy of the Hanoi Vietnamese, which the latter have noisily implemented since the end of 1978, makes some people shudder. However, our Cambodian nation and people have cooperated physically and morally to struggle against the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, Vietnam's lackeys, for over 12 years.

From Khieu Samphan's new year message, the year of the goat, we have clearly realized the situation and seen the results of our nation and people's struggle. We have clearly realized that the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy certainly cannot make our nation, people, and race into a second Kampuchea Kraom.

Indonesia

Alatas Tells Xu Dunxin SNC To Meet 'Shortly'

BK1804143091 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0959 GMT
18 Apr 91

[Text] Jakarta, Apr 18 (OANA-ANTARA)—Foreign Minister Ali Alatas told his Chinese counterpart Xu Dunxin Indonesia and France in their capacity as co-chairmen of the Paris international Conference on Cambodia are resuming peace efforts for the Cambodian conflict through holding an SNC (Supreme National Council) meeting in Jakarta shortly.

"A correct date in the middle of next month for the second SNC meeting in Jakarta is now being arranged," Alatas told reporters after receiving the Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister here Thursday.

At the meeting, Dunxin was accompanied by Chinese ambassador to Indonesia Qian Yong Nian. The People's Republic of China, which is also a permanent member of the UNSC [United Nations Security Council], is an important element in an effort to find comprehensive solution to the Cambodian conflict.

According to Alatas Dunxin's visit is a realization of the agreement between the two foreign ministers to hold periodical talks at a senior official level between the two countries. "This is the first meeting within the agreement frame-work which discussed various items of bilateral, regional and international issues," Alatas said. He said that among the important aspects which were discussed between Dunxin and the Indonesian senior officials is the plan to hold a second symposium on the prospect of cooperation in the South China Sea. China and Vietnam are invited to attend the informal symposium which is initiated by Indonesia, the minister said.

Xu Dunxin, he went on, promised that China would soon inform whether or not it would take part in the symposium, but Alatas hoped that China would attend it and countries in the South China Sea also be invited. The symposium aims at creating a better cooperation

climate, but does not constitute a formal meeting which [words indistinct] on the sovereignty of a country, said Alatas.

However, Indonesia is convinced that—if mutual understanding is reached—through cooperation on issues of common interest, the overlapping claims on sovereignty in the South China Sea could be overcome, the minister said. The Indonesian initiated symposium was held for the first time in Bali last year and was attended by a number of South East Asian countries. Delegates from ASEAN, China, Vietnam Laos are expected to attend the coming symposium, Alatas added.

Japan Concerned Over Human Rights in E. Timor

*OW1804142891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1155 GMT
18 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—The Japanese Government asked Indonesia in mid-March to show adequate concern for human rights issues with regard to its annexation of East Timor, informed sources said Thursday.

The sources said the issue was raised during high-working level consultations between Japan and Indonesia in Jakarta on March 11 and 12. Diplomatic sources said Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu also used his visit to Indonesia in May 1990 to call for greater recognition of human rights during his talks with President Suharto.

Indonesia annexed East Timor, a former Portuguese colony, in 1976. Human rights groups say as many as 200,000 of East Timor's total 650,000 people may have been killed by the Indonesian military in its suppression of the Timorese independence movement.

Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owade led the Japanese delegation to the March consultations, while Wiryono Sastrohandoyo, director general of the Indonesian Foreign Ministry's political affairs bureau, headed the Indonesian delegation.

The sources quoted the Indonesian side as saying there is a "mistaken view" outside Indonesia that people in East Timor are being "suppressed." The Japanese officials reportedly responded by saying the East Timor problem has been debated in the United Nations.

The U.N. Security Council has twice demanded the immediate withdrawal of Indonesian troops from East Timor, and the General Assembly has passed eight resolutions supporting the right of East Timorese to self determination. Japan has consistently voted against the resolutions.

At the March consultations, the Japanese officials reportedly said that while human rights issues are complicated by sociocultural factors, there are international standards, and they hoped Indonesia will pay due regard to its human rights problems.

Military Chief on Australian Professor's Remarks

*BK1704154491 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian
30 Mar 91 p 1*

[Excerpts] Jakarta, KOMPAS—Everybody should know that Indonesia's defense and security system is defensive and not offensive in nature, said Armed Forces Commander General Try Sutrisno in Jakarta on Thursday (28 March) when he was asked to comment on remarks made by Professor Desmond Ball from the Australian National University.

"Let him have his views. Our position is clear. Please study our defense and security doctrine. We wage war to protect ourselves. We are not a nation that attacks others," said the armed forces commander, who was questioned by reporters after attending a Regional Autonomy Consultative Council meeting at the Home Affairs Department in Jakarta. [passage omitted]

The armed forces commander stressed: "For Indonesia, war is a holy mission that has to be carried out only if there is no other option left. War is waged to safeguard our sovereignty and independence. Therefore, other people should not be scared and they should study the philosophy of this nation. If we own a kris or a rifle, that will be for defensive purposes only. If that weapon is carried by a goliath, he will use it to oppress others. If you study the meaning of the term offensive or strategic, you will understand how vast our territory is. How can we protect our territory from Sabang to Merauke with M-16 rifles only?" [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, in speaking to KOMPAS, Theo Sambuaga, vice chairman of parliament's Commission I, concluded that Australia's anxiety toward the military buildup of its neighboring Southeast Asian countries reflected its view as an European nation, which believed it should always be superior to Asian nations. And in that belief, Australia has always tried to keep its neighboring countries at arms length, especially in defense matters. [passage omitted]

Government Sets 'Conditions' on Democratic Forum

*BK1804103091 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST
in English 10 Apr 91 p 1*

[By Leo Jegho]

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The government yesterday laid down a string of conditions on Indonesia's new democratic forum, the Forum Demokrasi, amidst mixed reactions from political and public figures to the forum's existence.

Harisugiman, director general for social and political affairs at the Ministry of Home Affairs, told reporters following a meeting with the forum's chairman Abdurrahman Wahid that the government would allow the forum to operate if it would fulfill the following conditions:

- The name of the forum should be changed and "we leave it to Abdurrahman Wahid to find a new name for the group;"
- The forum, after adopting a new name, should shun politics;
- It shall not function as an opposition force;
- It shall accept other citizens into membership;
- The results of all its discussions that are meant for the government shall be channelled through any of the existing democratic institutions—the House of Representatives/People's Consultative Assembly, political parties or mass organizations.

Harisugiman said news reports on the birth of the forum had caused many people to suspect, if not worry about its future moves and therefore his office had the obligation to allay those fears. Abdurrahman told Harisugiman that Forum Demokrasi was primarily a forum for discussions and that it would not be developed into a political force.

Following his meeting with Harisugiman, Abdurrahman told reporters that he also had told the official that the forum would facilitate scientific discussions "aimed at encouraging democratic behavior among Indonesian citizens."

"The discussions may include subjects related to politics, but they will be 'contemplative and reflective' politics," the forum chairman said.

Abdurrahman is also chairman of the Nahdlatul Ulama, Indonesia's largest socio-religious Islamic organization. He told reporters that he hoped that the government would make use of the results of his forum's discussions to design development policies in the future.

Commenting on the topics the forum aimed to discuss, Abdurrahman said it would hold discussions on why the sectarian trend was rising in the country and why citizens' respect for law was diminishing. He also recalled that an increasing number of Indonesians were in the habit of taking law into their own hands. "Our society is developing into a violence-prone one," he noted.

Asked to comment on the involvement of several Catholic priests in the group, Abdurrahman said they were among those who were mostly concerned about the problems the forum wanted to address. He also said that if similar forums were to be set up in provinces he would support them.

On Harisugiman's request that the forum should open its door to other citizens to become members, Abdurrahman said any Indonesian was welcome to be a member of the forum, including government officials and members of the Armed Forces (ABRI). He said that some government officials had overreacted to the birth of the forum but "now they know that it is a cat, and not a tiger."

Many political and public figures had given mixed reactions to the birth of this forum. Rakhmat Witular, secretary general of the ruling group Golkar [functional

group], was quoted as saying in the latest edition of Tempo news magazine that as long as the forum could abide by the rules of the game it would be all right and acceptable to him. "Why the fuss. Democracy is something that still has to be developed. And it is not only political parties which should do that. It is the duty of everybody to do that," he said.

Army Gen (ret) Sumitro, former commander of the defunct Kopkamtib security agency told Tempo in an interview that "this forum is not dangerous. I think Abdurrahman Wahid aims to accelerate the process of democracy... Political organizations should naturally feel challenged by the birth of this forum... Democracy that exists today has not run normally yet. There is poverty of leadership and many leaders are afraid of airing their views... So there is no reason to suspect this forum..." Gen. Sumitro said.

Yusuf Syakir, deputy secretary general of PPP (United Development Party) said in an interview with Tempo that the Forum Demokrasi's birth indeed had put the government in a rather difficult situation. It made it appear that democracy had yet to exist in the country, and that if the government approved the forum, it would mean the government agreed with that assumption. But if the government refused to approve it, the situation would be worse, he said.

Saiful Sulun, deputy speaker of the House of Representatives (DPR)/People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) told reporters yesterday that he welcomed the establishment of the forum as long as it did not launch political programs.

Air Force Chief Discusses Needs for Air Defense

*BK1804135191 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian
12 Apr 91 p 1*

[Excerpt] Jakarta, Thursday [11 April] MERDEKA—Vice Marshal Sibun, chief of staff of the Indonesian Air Force, says that sophisticated F-16 aircraft and other fighters are currently strong enough to defend Indonesia's air space.

"The F-16's that support Indonesia's air defense system do not technologically lag behind the latest fighters," he said in reply to questions by newsmen during a fast-breaking function at Wisma Angkasa, Kebayoran Baru, Jakarta on Thursday evening.

Commenting on a comparison drawn by newsmen on the number of F-16 aircraft possessed by Indonesia—12 aircraft—and other ASEAN countries, Sibun said: "Other countries deem it necessary to possess more F-16 aircraft than Indonesia because of threats they are perceiving." He said Indonesia emphasizes efficiency and the needs of its air defense.

Meanwhile, the air force chief of staff said Indonesia has no plans to buy U.S.-made Patriot anti-missile missiles because no enemy threat is imminent. The Patriots

became famous for their ability to paralyze Iraq's Scud-B missiles during the recent Gulf war. "The Indonesian Air Force has not yet deemed it necessary to possess the Patriot anti-missile missiles," he said. [passage omitted]

Trade Surplus Plunges 33.8 Percent in 1990

*BK1804102691 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST
in English 5 Apr 91 p 4*

[Text] Jakarta (JP):—Indonesia's trade surplus plunged by 33.8 percent to US\$3,838.28 million last year from \$5,799.29 million in the previous year as imports rose at a faster pace than exports, the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS) said in its latest monthly report yesterday.

According to the report, the country's exports rose 15.8 percent to \$25,675.33 million from \$22,158.86 million, while its imports surged by 33.48 percent to \$21,837.05 million from \$16,359.57 million.

The 15.8 percent increase in exports was caused by a 27.5 percent rise in oil and gas exports from \$8,678.7 million to \$11,071.1 million and an 8.3 percent increase in non-oil exports from \$13,480.1 million to \$14,604.2 million.

The increase in earnings from oil and gas exports was caused by sharp increases in prices and the slower growth in non-oil export earnings by price declines for minerals and some agricultural products.

Crude oil exports, for example, declined by 3.3 percent in volume to 37.85 million tons, but increased by 21 percent in value to \$6,219.9 million.

Exports of natural gas increased only by 9.5 percent in volume to 23.95 million tons but by 40 percent in value to \$3,667.3 million and petroleum products only by 2.1 percent in volume to 7.7 million tons, but by 28.7 percent in value to \$1,183.9 million.

However, even though non-oil exports increased by 12.9 percent in volume to 38.05 million tons, they increased by 42.8 percent in value to 8.9 million tons but only by 26.5 percent in value to \$635.9 million.

Industrial products last year remained dominating Indonesia's earnings from non-oil exports. Industrial exports reached \$11,878.7 million or 81.3 percent of the total non-oil export earnings of \$14,604.2 million.

Among non-oil commodities, wood products also remained to be the country's largest foreign exchange earner in spite of the decline of their exports, followed by textiles and apparels, metals and rubber goods.

Exports of wood products decreased by 16.9 percent in volume to 6.52 million tons last year and by 3.3 percent in value to \$3,326.8 million but textile and apparels rose 24.9 percent in volume to 309,334 tons and 43.5 percent in value to \$2,917.4 million.

Exports of metals fell 23.8 percent in volume to 1.44 million tons and 33 percent in value to \$994.06 million

and rubber goods 6.2 percent in volume to 1.08 million tons and 13.8 percent in value to \$892.16 million.

Japan remained Indonesia's largest customer, followed by the United States and Singapore. Indonesia's non-oil exports to Japan declined by 12.7 percent to \$3,060.8 million last year but oil and gas exports to that country rose 33.2 percent to \$7,862.59 million. Non-oil exports to the United States increased by 16.9 percent to \$2,387.14 million but oil and gas exports to that country fell 32.8 percent to \$977.44 million. Non-oil exports to Singapore decreased by 1.3 percent to \$1,631.45 million but oil and gas exports to that country surged by 64.6 percent to \$270.68 million.

Japan was also Indonesia's largest supplier of goods last year, followed by the United States, (former) West Germany and Taiwan. Indonesia's imports of non-oil products from Japan increased by 40.7 percent to \$5,281.9 million, from the United States by 14.1 percent to \$2,484.58 million.

Philippines

Manglapus Welcomes Gorbachev's Dialogue Proposal

*HK1904032491 Manila BUSINESS WORLD
in English 19 Apr 91 p 10*

[Text] Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Japan could lead to a significant easing of tensions in the region, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said yesterday.

"We hope President Gorbachev's visit will be a success and would produce this easing of tensions which we consider desirable," he said. "Any easing of tensions is welcomed by the Philippines," Mr Manglapus said. "We are concerned about anything that would provoke any country in this region to arm itself even more than it may already have in order to prepare for the resolution of tensions. The less tensions there are, the less need for armament."

He disclosed that President Gorbachev's call for an Asia-Pacific dialogue "parallels" and "overlaps" with similar calls for discussions on regional security emanating from Ottawa and Mr Manglapus himself. "We do not look for potential enemies in order to talk security. I believe this is what Mr Gorbachev is driving at," the foreign secretary said, noting that Soviet delegates would be attending the Manila-sponsored Southeast Asian security dialog in June "in an unofficial capacity."

AFP Reports Further

*HK1804131491 Hong Kong AFP in English
1239 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] Manila, April 18 (AFP)—The Philippine government, which hosts the largest U.S. bases overseas, Thursday welcomed Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's call for an Asia-Pacific dialogue on security.

"We welcome all suggestions for dialogue because that stresses that the security question, far from being dead, is a very live question," Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said.

Mr Gorbachev proposed Wednesday during his visit to Tokyo that the Soviet Union, the United States, China, Japan and India hold a conference as a first step toward creating a permanent security forum.

Mr Manglapus said Mr Gorbachev's proposal was "evidence that the end of the Cold War does not mean the end of the question of security." "We do not need to look for potential enemies in order to talk about security," he said. "I believe this may be what Mr Gorbachev may be driving at."

Mr Manglapus is the Philippines' chief negotiator in negotiations with the United States on the future of the bases, whose lease expires in September. Despite heated rhetoric since the talks began almost a year ago, the two allies are expected to sign an agreement extending the U.S. military presence on a reduced scale for at least seven years.

Mr Manglapus himself is an advocate of a regional approach to security issues. He is hosting here in June an unofficial conference of officials and private experts on Southeast Asian security. He said participants from the Soviet Union along with Western countries will join the Manila meeting.

Abadia Says Eventually 'Bases Will Have To Go'

*HK1904033091 Quezon City MALAYA in English
19 Apr 91 p 2*

[By Chit Estella]

[Text] Breaking into a grin that displayed a glistening silver-encased tooth cap, Gen. Lisandro Abadia, the fourth chief of staff under the Aquino administration, yesterday showed a political savvy not quite common even among top officers of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines].

He admitted that while gunning for the AFP top post, he approached political leaders for support even as he appealed in his assumption speech for the insulation of the AFP from partisan politics. He debunked rumors that he and Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos were not on the friendliest of terms, saying their professional relationship goes farther back than Ramos and Abadia's nemesis, Maj. Gen. Alexander Aguirre.

He acknowledged the need for the eventual removal of the American military bases for the sake of national dignity, but would not comment or even rule out the possibility that he would have also asked the Americans for help had he been in the position to do so in December 1989. "I would do anything to preserve the government even if I have to use my teeth to fight the enemy," he said. And in an institution that is indisputably macho, he

declared that Philippine society is really matriarchal, owing its activities to its subtle domination by Filipino women.

In a breakfast forum at Fisherman's Wharf, the normally taciturn general cased up and let go of a volley of opinions that surprised his listeners. He admitted having called on Jaime Cardinal Sin, Makati Mayor Jeomar Binay, Senate President Jovito Salonga, opposition Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, Sen. Ernesto Maceda, House Speaker Ramon Mitra for support, promising to improve the operations of the AFP. But he said no political commitments were demanded or offered.

Commenting on reports that he was not Ramos' "boy," Abadia parried the observation by saying, "I'm close to everybody." Seemingly pleased with his own answer, he said, "How can you be wrong there?" He traced his association with Ramos to their Vietnam days, or all of 24 years. "General Ramos knew me ahead of General Aguirre," he said, but added he did not know the degree of closeness he and Aguirre enjoy with the defense chief.

While he would talk about any subject "under the sun," Abadia made an exception of the U.S. bases. "That's a political question. I was told not to talk about that by my superiors," he said. Or so it seemed. He would later say, however, "One of these days, the bases will have to go." Not just because they shall have become "scientifically irrelevant" but also because of the "desire of every Filipino, including myself, to put meaning and substance to that phrase sovereignty and dignity as a nation."

When asked if he had a part in a decision that must have been one of the most controversial ever made by the country's defense and military leaders, that of asking for U.S. help at the height of the December 1989 coup attempt, Abadia said, "It was a high-level arrangement. I was not party to that." Yet, he did not rule out the possibility of doing the same thing.

A wry comment that he, more than any other general, seemed to have gone out of his way to acknowledge the presence of the wives of the other generals and legislators during his turnover speech, elicited from Abadia the statement that he believes this is rightly so because Philippine society is matriarchal. He recalled it was his wife who stopped him from early retirement in 1987 when his "career was in the doldrums." Thrown to head the cadet corps while his junior officers were being assigned to lead brigades, Abadia thought it was time to go.

Column on Use of Crow Valley by U.S., Others

*HK1904032891 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY
in English 19 Apr 91 p 10*

["Turn of Events" column by Francisco S. Tatad: "The Crow Valley Affairs"]

[Text] Crow Valley is once more in the news. And pouring oil on the fire on the bases.

Crow Valley is a 17,640-hectare weapons range inside Clark Air Force Base, admittedly the best of its kind outside the U.S. It first inflamed public opinion in 1964 when a U.S. Air Force serviceman named Larry Cole shot and killed a 16-year-old boy while either bird-hunting or gathering scrap metal inside the range. U.S. authorities first said Cole was on duty when he killed the boy; 45 days later, it was learned he was not on official duty but had gone to the range for target practice. This incensed the media. Congress and the students became even more incensed when Clark authorities offered \$787 to compensate for the boy's death.

To soothe hurt sensibilities, Cole was tried by U.S. court martial and found guilty of "unpremeditated murder." He was sentenced to three years at hard labor, demotion in rank and dishonorable discharge. This sentence, however, was subsequently reduced by the U.S. commanding general.

This was not the last incident at the range. In 1969, in the famous Mooney case, the offending U.S. Air Force serviceman said he mistook his victim for a wild boar. Because of such incidents, the Philippine government resolved to regain control of the range. In 1977, Ambassador Eduardo Romualdez, Philippine ambassador to the U.S., proposed that Crow Valley be turned over to the Philippine government for agricultural development and that U.S. forces do their gunnery and bombing practice on American soil, perhaps in Hawaii or in continental U.S. This did not prosper.

In 1979, the Philippine and U.S. governments agreed that each base shall thereafter be under the command of a Filipino commander, and Crow Valley Weapons Range finally fell under the administrative supervision of such a commander. The specific provision reads as follows:

"The Base Commander shall administer the Crow Valley Weapons Range which is reserved for joint use of Philippine and United States forces. The United States activities within the range shall be limited to those appropriate to the operation, maintenance, improvement and security of the range. The United States Commander shall operate, maintain, improve and secure the Crow Valley Weapons Range and associated United States equipment/installations within and without the range...runway, fixed operating locations and mobile site locations, and provide weather and explosive ordnance disposal services. The scheduling of the range shall be the responsibility of the United States Commander. In this connection, the United States Commander shall co-ordinate closely with the Base Commander to insure, to the maximum extent possible, that the training requirements of Philippine and United States forces are satisfied. The utilization of the range shall be reported monthly to the Base Commander."

On the basis of the above, it becomes very clear that no air force of any third country could have been using the Crow Valley Weapons Range for gunnery and bombing

practice without the full knowledge of the Philippine government. In fact, the U.S. could not have allowed any such air force to use the range without the official consent of the Philippine government.

This is expressly mandated in Article XXV of the original agreement, undisturbed since 1947, which provides:

"1. The Philippines agrees that it shall not grant, without prior consent of the United States, any bases or any right, power, or authority whatsoever, in or relating to bases, to any third power.

"2. It is further agreed that the United States shall not, without the consent of the Philippines, assign, or underlet, or part with the possession of the whole or any part of any base, or of any right, power or authority granted by this Agreement, to any third power."

To the best of our knowledge, the air forces of some friendly third countries have been using Crow Valley since the time of Marcos with the full consent of the Philippine government. We have every right to reexamine this policy as to whether or not it is good for us but there is nothing new or earth-shaking in the fact that Australia, Canada, Singapore and Thailand have been using the range. It may be true that President Aquino knew very little or nothing about it until it appeared in the papers, but there's nothing unusual or earth-shaking about that.

What deserves to be looked into more deeply, however, is the official U.S. admission that it has been collecting fees from the third countries, at a minimum rate of \$100 per minute. Has this been done with the authority and consent of the Philippine government? Has this transaction benefited the Philippine government?

Clark is a Philippine base, Crow Valley is part of that base, and the U.S. maintains its facilities inside Crow Valley under an agreement that grants the U.S. "the use, free of rent, in furtherance of the mutual interest of both countries, of certain lands of the (Philippine) public domain." Although the 1947 agreement has been amended over 40 times and the U.S. has agreed since 1979 to provide an economic support fund for the Philippine government, the rent-free use of the bases has never been repealed, amended or revised. If the U.S. then does not pay the Philippines for the use of Crow Valley, why should it charge third countries for the use of the same, and why should it keep the fees it collects, instead of turning them over to the Philippine government?

This, I believe, is the real question in the Crow Valley affair. It does not involve large sums of money, but it does involve a principle. It must be sorted out before it is exploited by some to inflame popular passions.

Singapore Air Force Must Renegotiate To Stay

HK1804150391 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Text] The detachment of the Republic of Singapore Air Force [RSAF] at Clark Air Base, Angeles City, will be removed this coming September.

This was announced by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus. Manglapus said that they have to go in view of the expiration of the Singapore-Philippines treaty regarding the stay of the RSAF in the country. The secretary also added that Singapore has to renegotiate with the Philippines if they want their detachment to stay. There is a training detachment currently based at Clark Air Base.

Permanent Stay Violates Constitution

HK1804145791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 18 Apr 91

[By Rey Arquiza]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus today said that the presence of Singaporean troops at Clark Air Base on a permanent basis is a violation of the Philippine Constitution. Manglapus discovered that Singaporean troops based at Clark Air Base are also training at Crow Valley. The Philippine Government only allows into the country on a temporary basis foreign troops which are participating in military exercises like [word indistinct]. The Singaporean troops are detailed at Clark Air Base on a permanent basis and there are reports saying that there are also troops from other countries detailed here in the Philippines.

Aquino Names Abadia's Brother To Head Air Force

HK1804121191 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 18 Apr 91

[By Vic Sychongco]

[Text] President Aquino has named Brigadier General Loven Abadia as the replacement for outgoing Air Force Chief Major General Protacio. The announcement came after the president met with General Protacio and Abadia.

When interviewed, Abadia said that he is happy to be appointed by the president as the Air Force chief. When asked if his appointment will stir controversy, considering that he is the older brother of the newly appointed AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] head, the new Air Force chief said that he doesn't believe that it will stir another controversy within the AFP. The turnover for the incoming Air Force commanding general is scheduled for tomorrow at Villamor Air Base.

Lisandro Abadia Threatens Aguirre With Sanctions

HK1904033291 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 19 Apr 91 p 6

[Text] Lieutenant General Lisandro Abadia warned resigned armed forces deputy chief Maj. Gen. Alexander Aguirre yesterday that he faced sanctions if he continues to assail the President's appointment of Abadia as chief of staff.

Lamenting that Aguirre has refused to respond positively to his reconciliatory gestures, Abadia said he would not allow the office of the chief of staff to be further demeaned. "It is a fact of life that I am the chief of staff and that he cannot continue denigrating my office...and he cannot continue attacking my person, my competence and my professional conduct," Abadia said during the Malacanang press corps breakfast forum.

In a tone alternating between seriousness and banter, Abadia said he is just monitoring Aguirre's moves, adding that the latter was a lawyer cleverly acting on the borderline to evade sanctions for irregular military conduct.

Aguirre faces immediate sanctions if he does a "blatant" act against him or the president, Abadia said. Asked to explain "blatant", Abadia said: "If he will challenge me to a fire-fight, (that's) blatant...I will not give in to challenge, I will just court-martial him. That is a violation of the articles of war. Patay Siya [He is dead]."

Abadia also ridiculed Aguirre's contention he has more field experience than the new chief of staff. Asked if he clashed with Aguirre during the February Revolution when the latter was with the military defectors and he was Army operations chief, he said: "Kung clash lang, wala namang combat experience iyan eh. [Just a clash, he does not have combat experience.] You can print that." Abadia said Aguirre had never been assigned to Mindanao to fight the Muslim secessionists nor to Indochina during the Vietnam war, battlefields where he saw action.

On Aguirre's complaint of being bypassed, Abadia said he too had been bypassed when Aguirre was made deputy, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief. Abadia disclosed that when Maj. Gen. Cesar Nazareno was made constabulary chief over Aguirre, he was asked by then chief of staff Gen. Renato de Villa to "sacrifice" his claim to the deputy post. He was army operations chief at that time. The general said he obeyed de Villa. "Like a good soldier, I did not sulk. I did not complain," he said. "The idea to me was to restore his honor and his dignity." Abadia said despite the gesture, Aguirre never even thanked him for giving way.

Likewise, Abadia denied Aguirre's insinuations he sided with the late president Marcos during the February revolution. He said Marcos's military chief of staff, Gen. Fabian Ver, did not trust him so that he was kept in the dark about the rebellion of then defense minister Juan Ponce Enrile.

Army Chief Enrile Speaks on Combating Enemies*HK1804151391 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[By Andy Verde]

[Text] Brain for brain, arms for arms—this was the summary of the statements made by Army Chief Major General Arturo Enrile before officers and enlisted men of the 7th Infantry [word indistinct] Division in Fort Magsaysay, Palayan City during his visit today.

According to Enrile, there is first a need to know who really is the enemy and who is the ally, because, he said, we have misled brothers without arms who are just sympathizing with the leftist group.

[Begin Enrile recording] If our enemy is using arms to attack us, then we should fight back with arms. If our enemy is using brains to attack us, we should fight back with brains. We cannot attack brains with arms, and vice versa. We cannot attack arms with brains. [end recording]

The Army chief also expressed confidence that the 7th Infantry Division will continue to excel in various fields, just like when he was assigned to it. According to him, he can see in Brigadier General Edgardo Batengga, its commanding general, the qualities of a good builder, innovator, thinker, and imaginer. These qualities will help regain the prestige of Fort Magsaysay, just like before.

Enrile stressed that intensive training should be given serious attention. According to him, there are officers and soldiers carrying out unfavorable acts because of their weak training. Very good training will minimize the problems of the units and individual members of the Philippine Army, he added.

Enrile also took notice of the acts of some people who were given responsibilities in the government. He said they should do their job for the country. Enrile said the soldiers of the Philippine Army are overpaid and underpaid. The overpaid are those who get a low salary but whose performances are much lower, which means that there are soldiers whose work is not even worth one peso per day. While the underpaid are those whose work is worth much more than the salary they receive. The Army chief added that the salary of servicemen may be increased as soon as the Senate approves it.

Official on Rebels' 'Sophisticated' Facilities*HK1904031691 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 19 Apr 91 pp 1, 10*

[By Rita Villadiego]

[Text] Lucena City—A defense official yesterday expressed alarm over the discovery of sophisticated military facilities, including a cemented helipad, in two communist rebel camps in Mindoro.

Defense Undersecretary Eduardo Ermita said the rebel camps in Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro, and Bongabong, Oriental Mindoro, can accommodate two company-sized troops. Both have at least 15 well-built nipa huts, training facilities, 45 outposts and entrenchment for defense. Ermita said the helipad could have been used by the New People's Army [NPA] to transfer by helicopters the high-ranking officials of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

Both camps were overrun by the Philippine National Police [PNP] Task Force Minocor, although not a single NPA was captured.

Ermita said the cemented helipads in both camps showed that Mindoro is now the Southern Tagalog regional center of communist rebels. The official, however, ruled out the possibility of foreigners using the facilities to help the communist guerillas and said that the helicopters might have been donated by, or hijacked from, businessmen. Ermita also stressed that government troops have remained on the winning side of the insurgency war, with PNP strength placed at about 1,200 as against the NPA's fighting force of only 500.

Ermita, who spoke before the regional barangay council association, also appealed for grassroots support to curb insurgency in the region. He noted a decline in the number of barangays affected by communist rebels from 9,000 in 1986 to 6,000 this year.

World Bank Recommends Agricultural Policies*HK1904032291 Manila BUSINESS WORLD
in English 19 Apr 91 p 1*

[By Edgar R. Bancod]

[Text] A World Bank [WB] review mission here recently has recommended to Government several policy measures to prop up the country's agriculture sector.

In an internal memorandum for the agriculture secretary, V. Bruce J. Tolentino, agriculture undersecretary for policy and planning, outlined the recommendations of the WB mission, headed by Dr. D.J.W. Berkoff.

According to the memo, "The World Bank advocates correcting the general distortions in the economy that discriminate against agriculture." This move requires two measures. One is "a general adjustment in the exchange rate"—meaning devaluation—and another is the balancing of "explicit and implicit tariffs among" major food and non-food commodities.

This mission believes a general devaluation of the peso would make RP [Republic of the Philippines] goods cheaper in the eyes of foreign buyers. This should drum up demand for Philippine exports. Since most of the country's major exports are agricultural commodities, the agriculture sector should be given a much needed lift, the report noted. At the same time, the scheme will partially do away with the bias against the sector.

DA [Department of Agriculture] studies indicate that agricultural exports are the country's biggest dollar "net" earner—that is, export earnings less the cost of imported inputs. Many industrial exports, on the other hand, rely heavily on imported inputs. Between 70% and 90% of garments and electronic goods, for instance, are made up of imported inputs. By and large, labor accounts for much of their value-added.

The second measure recommended by the mission entails a uniform tariff structure for major food and non-food commodities. This is expected to refocus investment priorities to agriculture where the country is supposed to have the comparative advantage and away from inefficiency in other sectors.

On support services to farmers, the WB mission felt that Government's objectives must be to provide an environment within which private sector investments are encouraged. Water supply and irrigation service, input supply and management services, transport and distribution services, marketing, processing and storage facilities, and credit financial services are some of the areas where the private sector can be tapped. "Nonetheless, the WB sees the potential increase in average yields generated from these efforts still falling short of the increase in rice demand," Mr. Tolentino said.

The WB mission believes the conversion of rain fed to irrigated rice fields is still the best means to further boost average yields. Government, however, should spell out specific guidelines on selecting appropriate irrigation projects to weed out the "uneconomic" ones. The mission noted that rice supply and demand projections, currently being drawn up by the DA, can serve as a basis for assessing "the appropriate level of irrigation investments to meet the Government's food security objectives."

Thailand

Government Wants Talks With U.S. on 301 Issue

*BK1804134591 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
1200 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin told reporters this afternoon that Thailand is ready to talk with the United States anytime and any place on the Section 301 issue if the United States can delay the use of this measure against Thailand during this period. He has already briefed the U.S. ambassador to Thailand on Thailand's stand toward this issue so it will not affect bilateral relations and the interests of both countries.

General John W. Vessey Jr, the U.S. President's special adviser in charge of searching for U.S. servicemen missing during the Indochinese war, called on the foreign minister this afternoon. During the meeting, General Vessey asked the Thai side to talk with Vietnam about the search for U.S. servicemen missing in Vietnam when Vietnamese Vice Foreign Minister Le Mai visits Thailand in the near future.

U.S. Demands 'Direct Threat' to Sovereignty

*BK1804140791 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai
19 Apr 91 p 3*

[Editorial: "You Better Seize Thailand by Force"]

[Text] Thailand's sovereignty and independence are again threatened by the United States. This time it is a new type of threat—economic pressure for Thailand to follow U.S. dictates and protect U.S. interests, just as if it were a U.S. protectorate. The U.S. move runs counter to international practice advocated by the United States itself—that is, an effort to make all independent countries free of external threats and interference of all kinds.

The United States will determine Thailand's fate on 26 April when it designates Thailand a country subject to U.S. trade retaliation under Section 301 of the Trade Act. The United States is not happy with Thailand over several economic issues, such as Thailand's failure to pass a law giving protection to intellectual property rights, especially patent and copyright protection, in compliance with U.S. demands.

The U.S. demands and pressure have gone beyond the scope of trade negotiations. They constitute a direct threat to Thailand's economic sovereignty. For example, the United States wants Thailand to liberalize its service sector, including the banking, insurance, construction, and transport industries. U.S. airplanes must fly in and out of Thailand as freely as they wish, as if Thailand were a U.S. colony. This clearly shows that the United States is using Section 301 to pressure Thailand in more than just trade matters.

The U.S. attitude is not correct, either in terms of principle or present-day international practices. By asking for an assurance from Thailand that a law be enacted quickly and to the liking of the United States, the United States is asking the impossible of Thailand, or even of any country, because no country is under a totalitarian dictatorship as such. Besides, the United States must not forget that Thailand is not a U.S. colony.

It is fortunate for the United States that the Thai people, compared with people in other countries, have remained constant in their pro-United States attitude. We do not think that driving Thailand into a corner is the policy of President George Bush as such, but rather of the aides of the U.S. Trade Representative, Carla Hills, who took such action by themselves based on their policy of U.S. interests above everything and without thinking of other reasons.

We would like to call upon the United States to adjust its stand with regard to Thailand based on principles mutually acceptable to both parties. But if America insists on plunging head-on in pursuit of its own aims, it would then be better to seize Thailand by force of arms.

Medical Council Attacks Patent Bill Amendments*BK1904014191 Bangkok THE NATION in English
19 Apr 91 pp A1, A2***[By Mukdawan Sakphun]**

[Text] The Medical Council, the powerful licensing body for the medical profession, yesterday attacked the Commerce Ministry-inspired patent bill amendments saying that patenting medicines and active ingredients would have far-reaching economic and social consequences.

It is the first time that this prestigious medical body has publicly criticized the amendments, signifying an escalation in opposition to the effort which a Cabinet-appointed committee, chaired by Permanent Secretary of Commerce Phatchara Itsrasena, has been handling for a year.

Prof Dr Withun Unggraphan, vice president of the Medical Council, told reporters after a meeting yesterday that the medical body strongly disagreed with the recommended amendment that suggests that Thailand allow patent registration of pharmaceuticals and their active ingredients. He said the move would cause prices of drugs to rise, increase the pressure on the government's limited public health budget, and make Thailand dependent on foreign drug patentees. The infant pharmaceutical industry, he said, would also suffer because most companies which produce copied drugs would be forced off the scene.

The Patent Act of B.E. [Buddhist Era] 2522 denies patent registration of pharmaceuticals, their active ingredients, food, beverages, farm machinery and biotechnological inventions. It also empowers the government to force the patentees to license their rights to others in several instances. Moreover, the protection term of inventions of 15 years and for product design of 7 years are viewed by the Americans as far too short.

Washington has been pressuring the Thai government to strengthen the patent act to remove the exclusion list, extend the protection terms and narrow the government's broad compulsory licensing power.

The government has accelerated the passage of the amendment as the deadline of April 26 is drawing near for the US Trade Representative [USTR] to announce whether or not Thailand will be upgraded from its "priority watchlist" to the status of priority foreign country. This means that the USTR can initiate its own trade investigations into Thailand and authorize retaliation without complaints being lodged by the private sector. The amended version is expected to be sent to the Cabinet and the National Assembly at the beginning of May.

Prior to this, the Drug Studies Group, a non-governmental organization, the Thai Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association representing local drug companies some of which produce copied drugs, and university lecturers voiced their opposition to the amendment.

Withun, who is also the director of Mahidon University's research office on law, medicine and public health, cautioned that the move could backfire. Firstly, the patentees will have almost monopolistic power over drugs they invent, enabling them to set prices at will. He also attacked Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on for saying that if the prices of patented drugs increase, only the rich would suffer. Withun disputed that by saying that new drugs tend to cure diseases such as cancers and AIDS which hit both the rich and the poor equally. Moreover, the assumption that the patentees would possibly transfer the new drug technology they own to local companies once the drugs are patented does not hold much water, says the medical body.

The medical profession feels that the details of production procedures as declared by drug companies when they apply for patent registration would not be sufficient for even experts in the industry to follow in order to make the same products.

In addition, the patentee would use tactics that enable them to extend the protection period beyond the due term, Withun suspected. At the very worst, Withun said, only new drugs should be registered and that the government allow some time for the local industry and its whole public health circle to adjust.

Lao Deputy Premier Calls On Prime Minister Anan*BK1804140591 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5
in Thai 1230 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] Phoun Sipaseut, Lao People's Democratic Republic deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who is paying an official visit to Thailand as a guest of the Foreign Ministry, was accompanied by Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin on a courtesy call to Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun at Government House today. Both sides exchanged views on the general situation in the region, as well as on bilateral trade. Laos currently imports, basically, consumer products and medical supplies from Thailand.

On this auspicious occasion, the prime minister thanked the Lao Government for its awareness of good relations between Thailand and Laos as brotherly countries.

Japan Official Views Post-Coup Ties, Ends Visit*OW1804143691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1328 GMT
18 Apr 91*

[Text] Bangkok, April 18 KYODO—Influential Japanese politician Shin Kanemaru suggested Thursday that Japan will not need to change its policies toward Thailand following the country's military coup in February.

Kanemaru, ending a three-day visit to Thailand, told reporters the February 23 coup which ousted elected Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan was only a political change. Thai people are leading normal lives and there are no infringements on human rights, the former deputy prime minister said. He said Japanese financial

aid worth 85-100 billion yen allocated for fiscal 1991 should be implemented as planned.

The first high-level Japanese political figure to visit Thailand since the coup, Kanemaru is here at the invitation of the Thai Foreign Ministry. He met Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, who was appointed by the military junta which staged the coup, and other Thai leaders, discussing bilateral relations.

Kanemaru said Thai officials were expressing great hope for the expected visit to Thailand and other Southeast Asian nations in the fall by Japanese Emperor Akihito. He also said the officials asked Japan to extend financial aid to the two Cambodian resistance factions led respectively by Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Son Sann.

Anan To Discuss Martial Law With Businessmen

*BK1904015191 Bangkok THE NATION in English
19 Apr 91 p A1*

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun will seek the views of a group of leading businessmen on when the interim government should lift martial law at an as-yet to-be-arranged meeting, a Cabinet member said yesterday.

Interior Minister Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi said the premier will discuss with the businessmen the pros and cons of martial law rule before making a final decision on the issue. "If the premier feels that the situation has come to a point where martial law has no more disadvantages than advantages, then he will do away with it," Itsaraphong said. He did not give any other details on the planned meeting.

Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, who is also chairman of the National Peacekeeping Council (NPKC), meanwhile, said that he should not make any comment on the issue because "as a matter of etiquette, the prime minister should be the one to speak on the issue". But he admitted that the martial law would be lifted very soon.

However, Sunthon said that there might be an attempt by some in the labour movement to aggravate the situation so that the NPKC had to retain the martial law. "I have not got any reports about a possible underground campaign to disturb peace and order. But I cannot rule out the possibility that there might be attempts to aggravate the situation while we are about to lift the martial law," he said.

Sunthon said that the NPKC actually had not curbed the freedom of expression of state enterprise labour unions which are dissented with the enactment of two bills to replace them with associations and to deny them the rights to stage strike. He said that the majority of the public had understood why the NPKC had to push for the dissolution of state firm unions. "We are just prohibiting them from launching the kind of activities which would intimidate and affect the public. The

NPKC does not want to antagonize any group. We just want to do the right things," he said.

Meanwhile, Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, deputy chairman of the National Peacekeeping Council, said it was up to Prime Minister Anan as to when martial law would be lifted. Suchinda was speaking to reporters after receiving Lao Foreign Minister Phoun Sipraseut at the Army Auditorium yesterday.

The military-dominated National Assembly on Monday swiftly passed two bills that deprived the once-powerful state enterprise unions of their right to strike. Suchinda had said in a previous interview that he wanted the martial law to be scrapped shortly after the passage of the two bills, but he added that opinions in the NPKC were still divided on the timing of the move.

In a response to a call by former army chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut for a snap general election in three months even though the new constitution has not been promulgated, Gen Sunthon said that it was impossible to hold the election without the groundwork to be laid out in the new constitution. But he said that Chawalit and the NPKC were not enemies. "Gen Chawalit only looked at the problem from a different viewpoint," he said.

Commenting on the same issue, Itsaraphong said that the provisional Constitution stipulates that the election would be held within this year. The Constitution however allows for an extension of the date to April next year. Itsaraphong said that the pace of the new constitution formulation by a National Assembly-appointed panel would determine whether the polls would be held sooner or later.

Gen Chawalit, who is now leader of the New Aspiration Party, said on Wednesday the election can be held without a constitution. The committee can carry on with its task to draft the constitution while the elections are organized with the promulgation of a new decree, Chawalit contended. But Itsaraphong said a good constitution is needed to make the elections clean and fair.

Deputy Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan yesterday also ruled out Chawalit's proposal that a general election be held before a new Constitution is in place, saying the idea was impractical. "When a house is not completed, how can people live there?" Where will they stay?" said Michai, who is leading the drafting of Thailand's new Constitution.

Chawalit backed his call for a general election within a few months with concerns that the National Peacekeeping Council which seized power on Feb 23, might "start to believe that they can do it (run the country) and that politicians cannot." Chawalit said there was no need for the NPKC to wait for the promulgation of the new constitution before announcing the election, adding that some countries could hold elections without a charter. "We have to wait for a constitution," Michai said. He

also pointed out that the interim Constitution adopted by the NPKC stipulates that a general election be organized after a permanent constitution is adopted.

A group of politicians is planning to present to the public its own draft constitution on Monday, one of the group's members said yesterday. The 10-member group, led by deputy Solidarity Party leader Uthai Pimchaichon, submitted a letter to Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun yesterday to inform him of its intention to hold a "peaceful" seminar on Thailand's new Constitution.

The military which seized power on Feb 23 has banned political gatherings of five people or more. Supreme Commander Sunthon Khongsomphong also expressed anger recently at the group's move to draw up an alternative charter.

Sutham Saengprathum, a group member, said the seminar is scheduled to start at 10 am at the Solidarity Party headquarters on Ratchadaphisek Road. "We will present the basic contents of our draft to the public," Sutham said, adding that his group's draft was based on the 1978 Constitution.

The Student Federation of Thailand [SFT] yesterday issued a statement urging Prime Minister Anan to lift the martial law as soon as possible or make a public clarification on why it has to be maintained. The SFT also said its leaders will seek a meeting with the premier to put across its demand for early scrapping of the martial law.

Deputy Premier Discusses Drafting of Constitution

BK1604070191 Bangkok THE NATION in English
16 Apr 91 p A8

[Interview "last week" with Michai Ruchuphan, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Constitution Drafting Committee, by THE NATION reporters Sorrayut Suthatsanachinda, Somphong Kittinarathon, and Termsak C. Phalanuphap]

[Text] [Question] Is it true that a "Michai constitution" has already been drafted?

[Michai] This is absolutely untrue. Let it be known once and for all that I have no ready-made draft of the constitution. I only have ideas, like everyone else on this 20-member drafting committee. This is the first interview in which I'm going to sell some of my ideas.

[Question] What's your idea about separating the executive branch from the legislature?

[Michai] People are talking about the separation. But it isn't that easy because the two branches of government are always connected one way or the other. What we need is some appropriate mechanism to link the two so that elected representatives can still take political offices in the executive branch.

Some people say the elected representatives must be barred from holding any Cabinet posts. They want all the

political posts in the executive branch held by bureaucrats. If it is that simple then we can complete a new draft of the constitution in 20 days. But the days of bureaucrats concurrently holding Cabinet posts were long over. We must come up with a more acceptable solution to this issue; we must design an appropriate linkage mechanism to connect the two branches.

[Question] What should be the role of the Senate?

[Michai] First we must look at the method by which senators are selected. Then we can say how much the senators should have and what role they should play. Ideally there should be an appropriate selection method to ensure the representation of diverse groups in Thai society and economy.

In the past, senators were chosen by politicians in power who expected their senators to obey them. Most of the appointed senators were individuals with a great deal of experience and ideas, but they didn't have strong affiliation with any political parties. Therefore they could have more freedom of thought than the MPs [members of parliament].

People often saw the senators as a rubber-stamp, passively approving bills sent from the House of Representatives. This is a misconception. The senators were not politicians, they didn't have to impress the public with rhetorical speeches and wits. They would approve bills that they thought were acceptable but would stop those that they found unacceptable. Sometimes the House was under pressure by strong lobbying groups to pass a bill that many MPs disliked. But the bill was stopped by the Senate. Therefore the appointed senators did play a constructive role in making the House of Representatives reconsider a particular controversial bill.

[Question] Do you have a particular model for the selection of senators in mind?

[Michai] Not really. But I think many major non-governmental associations can play a role in the selection process. For example the Federation of Thai Industries, the Chamber of Commerce of Thailand and the Reporters Association of Thailand can each help nominate their representatives. If each of these groups can have five senators, each may nominate 10. Then the House of Representatives will choose from these nominees for appointment to the Senate.

Under this system, neither the groups nor the politicians have complete control over the selection. We will get mostly very qualified individuals in the Senate who owe the politicians in power nothing. Moreover, people cannot claim they have no part in the selection because the primary nomination is done by non-governmental organizations. If this is adopted, then I'm confident that we shall have a highly qualified Senate capable of playing a larger role with increased power, though it may not have as much power as the elected House of Representatives.

[Question] How about making the Senate an elective body?

[Michai] I don't think that will be useful. Senators and MPs will then come from the same pool of politicians. In that case, why have a bicameral legislature? Why not make it a single elected House of Representatives? The logic in drawing lawmakers from different sources is to ensure a diversity of ideas in Parliament.

[Question] Will the Senate under this selection system participate in selecting a prime minister?

[Michai] I have no preference on this issue yet. I think the answer to this question depends on how we select senators.

[Question] There have been reports that the power of MPs to censure Cabinet members will be reduced so much, to the extent that opposition MPs wishing to call a no confidence debate against any Cabinet members will have to put their House membership at stake. Some reports also say the no confidence debate can be called against the entire Cabinet or the prime minister only, but not against individual Cabinet members. Can you comment on these reports?

[Michai] I've heard about such ideas too. Obviously there are numerous flaws. It's wrong to force the Opposition to censure only the entire Cabinet or the prime minister because you cannot hold the Cabinet or the prime minister responsible for every thing an individual Cabinet member has done, especially when it involves corruption or personal misconduct. If a Cabinet member fails to implement a government policy, then that's a different matter of which the entire Cabinet can be held responsible.

It's also wrong to force the opposition MPs to jeopardize their political careers every time they want to censure a Cabinet member. Remember the censure motion is part of the parliamentary means of holding government politicians accountable to the public. Without it, the parliamentary system will be distorted.

True, the opposition MPs may not have all the truth to say against a Cabinet member during a no confidence debate. But experience shows that more often than not the opposition MPs have some facts and some information to prove wrongdoing of a Cabinet member.

[Question] How will you stop Cabinet members from bribing opposition parties to pull their punches during a no-confidence debate?

[Michai] Again experience shows that such bribery and vote-buying did take place in Parliament, especially when the Opposition was preparing a censure motion. What we need here is a new body with the mandate to stop such political abuse.

[Question] Are you talking about a powerful Senate?

[Michai] No. I'm thinking about the constitutional tribunal which, as in the previous constitution, was empowered to determine whether an MP or a Cabinet member had enough qualifications for the job. Normally, the constitutional tribunal makes a decision under the unanimity rule. To make it more flexible and practical, we may change the rule to a simple majority vote.

(Under the Constitution of 1978, the tribunal comprises seven members: president of Parliament, president of the Supreme Court, director-general of the Public Prosecution Department, and four others appointed by Parliament. The tribunal is chaired by the Parliament's president.)

We may also have to enlarge the tribunal to include respectable retirees, such as those from the Supreme Court, the Public Prosecution Office. We should also consider appointing representatives from the private sector because, like the retirees, they are less susceptible to government pressure. The key question here is how to select members on the tribunal. I've no idea about it yet. Perhaps we can try the same system like the selection of senators: non-governmental organizations nominate qualified representatives for a final selection by the House of Representatives.

[Question] Do you think the constitutional tribunal should also supervise general elections?

[Michai] If we can build up the constitutional tribunal into a more effective body, we may use it in supervising general elections. In order to deter vote-buying, we may also have to improve the electoral system. For example, at present few defeated candidates want to challenge an election in court even though they may have evidence to show that the winner has cheated. The most they can get is a court order to hold a by-election. Why don't we change the rule to the effect that in case of cheating, the court can promote the runner-up in the election to replace the original winner who will be stripped of his House membership and barred from future elections?

If both the winner and the runner-up cheated, and the candidate coming third sued and won, the court will promote him to the House. In this way all the candidates who are underdogs have the incentive to run and watch the frontrunner carefully. We need such an effective body to prevent abuse of power of ministers and other politicians so that there is no need for the military to step in every time there is a political crisis.

[Question] Something like a super CCC (Counter-Corruption Commission)?

[Michai] No, it will be different from the CCC which must work with hard evidence of corruption and other wrongdoing. The body I've in mind must be more powerful, must be acceptable to the House of Representatives, and must be able to use discretion in stopping abuse of power in government. This body may also have the constitutional power to appoint ombudsmen to

handle complaints of abuse of power in various parts of government as well as to monitor general elections.

[Question] Do you think it is necessary to stipulate that only members of political parties are qualified for appointment to the premiership?

[Michai] Yes, I think so, especially if we really want to develop the political party system in this country. A prime minister who doesn't belong to any party will have a great deal of difficulties running the country and lack a direct connection with the House.

[Question] Does this mean you also don't want to see bureaucrats hold Cabinet posts?

[Michai] I think it's an obsolete idea to have bureaucrats concurrently holding Cabinet posts. But then we need to create a mechanism to ensure that we elect only highly qualified politicians so that they can make a better Cabinet. One lesson we should draw from the Constitution of 1969 (in which MPs were barred from holding Cabinet posts) is that there must be some appropriate mechanism to link the executive branch with the legislature.

[Question] What are your objectives in chairing the constitution drafting committee?

[Michai] Our objectives are to eliminate all the incentives for politicians to buy votes, and to stop elected MPs from buying Cabinet posts, which in turn forces them to make quick money through abuse of power. If we cannot tackle these two basic problems, then we need some new mechanisms to oversee the politicians' behaviour and Cabinet members' performance.

[Question] Do you think changing the electoral system to one of proportional representation will improve the quality of the House?

[Michai] I've yet to be convinced that it will work that way. What if you have personalities with questionable reputation at the top of the list of nominees for the House seats of each party? Won't you still end up sending these questionable people to the House? We have to look at this new system more carefully.

Vietnam

Vessey Arrives, Minister Predicts 'Difficulties'

BK1904105291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1043 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi, April 19 (AFP)—U.S. General John Vessey and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Kenneth Quinn arrived here Friday for talks with Vietnamese officials on obstacles to normalizing relations between Hanoi and Washington.

"I hope that we will discuss" a plan for normalizing ties recently proposed by Washington, Gen. Vessey said as he arrived. The general, a special envoy of President

George Bush on U.S. soldiers who went missing in action (MIAs) during the Vietnam war, added that he would press for stepped up searches for MIA remains when he meets with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach.

According to U.S. statistics, 2,353 soldiers disappeared in Indochina during the war, including 1,719 in Vietnam. So far the Vietnamese authorities have turned over 291 sets of remains thought to be those of MIAs. The two countries have had no diplomatic ties since the U.S. defeat in the war in 1975, and Washington has led a crippling trade embargo against Vietnam.

Washington's plan for a gradual resumption of ties includes resolution of the MIA issue, the release from reeducation camps of former South Vietnamese officials and acceptance of a UN-brokered peace plan for Cambodia. Hanoi, the main backer of the Phnom Penh Government, has said normalization with Washington should be achieved without conditions and that it would facilitate a Cambodian solution.

Mr. Thach predicted difficulties Friday before his first meeting with Gen. Vessey. "It will be difficult because the Americans have conditions on Cambodia that we cannot satisfy," he said. The foreign minister said Hanoi could not force Phnom Penh to accept "things they don't want to accept."

The Phnom Penh Government and Hanoi, seeking assurances against a return to power by the Khmer Rouge, have both rejected the proposal that the Cambodian Government army be dismantled under the peace plan.

Gen. Vessey, who was made special envoy by ex-President Ronald Reagan, is on his third visit to Hanoi, where he is to spend two days. His 11-member delegation includes Deputy Assistant Secretary for Defense Carl Ford and Ann Griffiths, head of the National League of Families of POWs/MIAs.

The Cambodian peace plan forged by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council spells out a central role for the world body, supervising a cease-fire, disarmament and the halting of foreign military aid to the warring factions and administering Cambodia until elections can be held.

The Khmer Rouge, now the strongest of the three resistance factions, is held responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of civilians during its 1975-1979 rule in Cambodia before being ousted by Vietnamese invasion forces.

Hanoi said Wednesday that the release "sooner or later" of the former South Vietnamese officials would depend on their attitude and that of Washington. U.S. officials say between 100 and 200 former officials of the South Vietnamese Government, both military and civilian, remain in reeducation camps.

Meanwhile, a delegation of the U.S. Red Cross is visiting Vietnam for the first time. Delegation leader Robert Jursnick told reporters Friday, "our visit is aimed at gathering information on the humanitarian areas in which we can cooperate with the Vietnamese Red Cross." Mr. Jursnick is the Red Cross' executive director for St. Paul, Minnesota.

Here since last Saturday, the five-member delegation has visited orphanages and centers for the handicapped and elderly in northern Vietnam, Mr. Jursnick said, adding that they would spend the next five days in the south. Noting that the U.S. and Vietnamese Red Cross had cooperated since 1988 on searching for civilians gone missing during the war, Mr. Jursnick said he hoped the cooperation could be extended to care for underprivileged Vietnamese. The Vietnamese Red Cross is to send a delegation to the United States in June to follow up, he said.

Spokeswoman on U.S. Trade Embargo, Vessey Visit

*BK1904111491 Hanoi International Service
in English 1000 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Text] Vietnam's relations with the United States and Southeast Asian countries and Eastern Europe were highlighted at the regular press conference called on Thursday by Mrs. Ho The Lan, spokeswoman for the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry.

Today, we bring you the main issues raised during this press conference:

Speaking at this conference, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman confirmed the forthcoming visit to Vietnam by General John Vessey, special envoy of U.S. President for humanitarian affairs. This will be the first discussion between Mr. John Vessey and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach on humanitarian issues concerning both the United States and Vietnam. Mrs. Ho The Lan voiced the hope for the success of this meeting, particularly in facilitating the settlement of the MIA issue and other humanitarian questions concerning both sides.

The Vietnamese spokeswoman also noted that since the first meeting between General John Vessey and Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach in August 1987, Vietnam has joined the U.S. in conducting 13 searches for almost all the 119 cases listed as priority by the U.S. side. Vietnam has handed to the United States 291 sets of remains. Both sides have set up information groups for this purpose.

Answering a REUTER correspondent's question on the draft bill proposed by U.S. Senator Frank McCloskey on lifting the trade embargo against Vietnam, Mrs. Ho The Lan said: The extension of trade sanctions against this country does not conform to the present international political and economic climate. Renewed trade sanctions against Vietnam, she said, also run counter to the desire of different circles in the United States, particularly

business circle. The sanctions have come under strong public fire and have been criticized even at the U.S. Congress.

She held that U.S.-Vietnam cooperation in solving the humanitarian issues of both countries, including the MIA issue, is bringing about concrete results recognized by both sides. In this spirit, Vietnam believes that any contributions facilitating the MIA resolution should be encouraged, and normalization of U.S.-Vietnam relations must be conducted without preconditions.

In reply to another question relating to Vietnam's policy toward East European countries, though political institutions have been changed, she said: We wish for the development of relations of friendship and cooperation with all countries on the basis of mutual respect, equality, and mutual benefits. We are desirous of maintaining, consolidating, and developing such relations on the basis of renewed contents and forms of cooperation in order to better meet the interests of peoples of both sides. Contacts are increasing. We hope the cooperative relations between Vietnam and East European countries will be renewed in the direction of realities and positive goals.

The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman also told newsmen that at Thailand's request, Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai will go to Bangkok from 22 to 23 April for a consultative meeting with the Thai side at deputy ministerial level. The two sides expect to discuss bilateral and international issues of common interest, the coming visit by high-ranking officials of the two countries, as well as recent developments around the Cambodian issue.

Those were main issues raised during the press conference held in Hanoi Thursday by the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman.

Further on News Conference

*BK1904024991 Hanoi VNA in French 1244 GMT
18 Apr 91*

[Text] Hanoi VNA 18 Apr—Mrs Ho The Lam, spokeswoman and head of the Press and Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, today held the seventh regular news conference in Hanoi.

Answering a question from the AFP correspondent on those persons still held in reeducation centers in Vietnam, Ho The Lam said: Consistent with its lenient policy, the Government of Vietnam has examined and set free almost all those detained in reeducation centers. The freeing, immediate or otherwise, of those still in the centers depends on their attitude. Obviously, the pursuit by the United States of a policy hostile to Vietnam obliges us to look closely at this question.

With regard to Vietnam's relations of broad cooperation with certain socialist countries in Eastern Europe following changes in their political institutions, Mrs Ho The Lam said: We wish to develop our relations of

friendship and cooperation with all countries on the basis of mutual respect, legality, and mutual interest. We wish to maintain, develop, and consolidate in new ways the fraternal relations that have existed between the peoples of Vietnam and Eastern Europe in the interests of both parties.

Contacts between Vietnam and the countries of Eastern Europe are broad. Recently, Jan Majewski, Polish deputy minister for foreign affairs, visited Vietnam, and shortly Martin Palous, Czechoslovak deputy minister of foreign affairs, will visit our country. We hope that the relations of cooperation between Vietnam and the countries of East Europe will be effectively renewed.

Radio Reports U.S. Senators' Efforts on Cambodia

*BK1904030091 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] In a recent Senate testimony, U.S. Senator Kerrey called on the U.S. Administration to set up an [word indistinct] agency in Cambodia. He suggested that the U.S. strive to hold direct talks with the Phnom Penh government to find measures to prevent the Khmer Rouge from returning to power. He stressed that U.S. aid to opposition forces in Cambodia depends on the latter's efforts to reduce military activities there.

Also in this testimony, Senator McCloskey contended that the U.S. Administration was too resolute to eliminate the Phnom Penh government. The government that fights against the Khmer Rouge and wants to have good relations with the United States is not a police government.

6,000 Construction Workers Return From Iraq

*BK1904102091 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 13 Apr 91*

[Text] As of late March, almost 6,000 construction workers of the VINACONEX corporation attached to the Ministry of Construction had returned home from Iraq.

To help these workers stabilize their daily life, the corporation has granted a sum of 700 million dong for the transportation of these persons from the Noi Bai and Tan Son Nhut airports to their localities. These workers have received 25 percent of their paychecks amounting to 6 billion dong, while the remaining 75 percent will be settled soon.

To provide jobs for workers returning home from abroad, the corporation has recently set up three enterprises and hired almost 500 workers. The corporation will soon establish two additional enterprises to provide more jobs.

Trade Cooperation Pact Signed With Poland

*BK1904082991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 12 Apr 91*

[Text] On 12 April, Vietnamese Deputy Minister of Commerce Le Kim Long and Polish Ambassador to Vietnam Stanislaw Gebala, on behalf of their governments, signed an agreement on trade cooperation and payments between the two countries.

Under this agreement, both sides will enjoy an economic favorite status, while export-import units of the two countries are entitled to sell and buy goods they want at world market prices, and to settle their accounts in foreign currencies available in the money market.

NHAN DAN Views Draft Political Report

*BK1504100391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1000 GMT 5 Apr 91*

[From the Press Review for 5 April]

[Text] Under the title "Recapitulate Renovation Realities," an editorial in today's NHAN DAN says:

The Seventh Party Congress is charged with the colossal responsibility of recapitulating the country's renovation realities in recent years, reviewing party building work, and discussing and determining the political platform and socioeconomic strategy. On that basis, the congress will set forth the orientations and tasks for the 1991-95 period, modify party statutes, and elect a new party leadership organ.

These important tasks require the contributions of the entire party and people, while the documents to be adopted by the congress must be considered as the collective intellectual duct of all party members and those outside the party. For this reason, following the political platform and socioeconomic strategy, the party Central Committee will extensively publicize its draft political report at the seventh congress.

Each document has its own importance. The political report touches on many burning questions which have arisen and will arise shortly in all domains of the country's life, and involves the activities and daily life of every person. Therefore, it absorbs the attention of cadres, party members, and the people of all strata.

The political report recapitulates our country's renovation realities; reviews the implementation of the Sixth Party Congress' policy of renovation; and points out things that have been and have not yet been done, shortcomings and new problems and their causes, and the lessons of experience. On that basis, the political report sets forth general objectives and major tasks with viewpoints and policies for the next five years, and improves or further modifies the guidelines for renovation laid down by the Sixth Party Congress.

To meet the aforementioned objectives and requirements, the contents of the political report concretizes the political platform and socioeconomic strategy without duplicating these documents. Although the contents of the political report involve the 1991-95 five-year plan and the report on party building, they are not presented in detail and also do not duplicate these two documents.

After pointing out the main contents of the political report, the editorial continues:

The draft political report has been disseminated for the contribution of views among party ranks since early February. The contribution of views on this document among various grass-roots units and echelons has been made in a lively manner. There have been suggestions on supplements and amendments to various parts of the political report; from the assessment of the situation, analysis of the causes of shortcomings, and lessons of experience, to the task of determining targets, orientations, and major tasks for the next five years.

In publicizing the draft political report for soliciting views from the entire people, our party sincerely wants to gather the intellect of our people of all strata from all parts of the country; of workers, peasants, intellectuals, writers, artists, and scientists; of all echelons and sectors; and of our comrades and compatriots at home and abroad.

Our party will welcome all constructive and sincere views or views that are based on the truth and on the viewpoints and assessment we have mentioned above. We hope to have a political report that is worthy of the importance of the party congress—a congress to which all of us are looking forward to with faith and hope.

More Organizations Hold 1st Round Party Congress

General Staff Department

*BK1104111791 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1400 GMT 26 Mar 91*

[By station correspondent Khanh Toan]

[Text] From 19 to 23 March, the party committee of the General Staff Department of the Ministry of National Defense held the first round party congress to provide opinions to the documents which will be presented at the Seventh Party Congress and to elect representatives to attend the first round congress of the entire military forces.

The weather was cool this spring. The big hall of the headquarters was covered with the red color of the party and national flags. More than 200 representatives who were trustingly elected by 26 party committees from the first round congresses attended fully, with high political responsibility to the drafting of the political report, the economic strategy, and the activity direction of the party in the Seventh Party Congress and in the whole transitional period of advancing to socialism.

This is the congress of party members of four generations, including many generals and senior military officers who have been marching through the long struggle of national salvation since the days before the August Revolution to the stage of national unification. Now, they are advancing together with the people to socialism and are currently performing the renovation under the leadership of the party.

The most senior man in joining the revolution has been a party member for 55 years. The youngest has been a member for six years. In the party committee there are many organizations responsible for strategy research and staff to direct the national defense duty of the party and state. Some members hold important staff positions. Many cadres graduated from universities and military academies as doctors of philosophy, candidates for doctor of philosophy, and teachers. They are the people with real gray matter who serve the undertaking of defense and construction of the fatherland in the new revolutionary period.

With this type of participant, the opinions contributed to the documents of the Seventh Party Congress confirmed the scientific base in evaluating the revolutionary achievements of the party leadership and in pointing out the party's mistakes, shortcomings, and practical measures to advance the country.

Hundreds of opinions which were studied and presented scientifically and 1,265 opinions of party members at the 26 party congresses were sent to the party management organization. At this congress, the opinions were exchanged and discussed to be further clarified and added to the party documents.

The issue of understanding the transitional period to socialism in order to correctly evaluate the situation and to plan suitable steps was discussed by many representatives. Bui Phan Ky, major general and teacher, provided his opinions:

[Begin recording] Through discussions on the documents at party congresses as well as opinions written to the newspapers, it is seen that the requirement on social justice, freedom, democracy, and so forth is very appropriate. But there are quite a few requirements, when considered carefully, which cannot be met in the transitional period. Those requirements were brought up because we used to be in the habit of describing socialism as a perfect and beautiful form with absolute justice, absolute democracy, and complete freedom, unaffected by any background factors. We said it was not difficult to reach that status. I think that in the current international and national conditions, it is necessary to write about the transitional period in a way so that everybody can see that on one hand, we have had many main factors in politics and economy to build socialism, but on the other hand, we still have to struggle under adverse conditions for constructing and protecting socialism in order to reap the real socialist achievements. It is not only with the socialist government and one section of socialist

economy that we can easily have results on every field. When talking about the transitional period, it is impossible to neglect the basic knowledge of the period and its correct application to our country's situation. Isn't it true that this is the transitional period, and of course, in our country it means that the period of national democratic revolution has been completed? And the socialist revolution is developing in every field despite the fact that the upper structure has the socialist essence, but in the economic base, (the production relations) employs the socialist system, the non-socialist system, and the capitalist economic system. The new is the socialism which was just formed and is still weak. The old is the capitalism which has been defeated but not destroyed. We pass over the stage of capitalist development, but the capitalist element cannot be unacceptable. The different economic elements can be both cooperative and fighting to gain the edge. The socialist party and state are directing the cooperation and the fighting in order to make the other economic elements cut down on their shortcomings and develop their strengths to serve the purpose of transition to socialism and to secure the leading position of the socialist economic elements. And when many economic elements are recognized, the absolute fairness between poor and rich can be achieved as long as the people don't make themselves rich illegally. Even the labor value of some classes of people can be appropriated by other economic elements under different forms. Freedom and democracy must be within the legal limit of socialism and in accord with the majority's benefits. It shouldn't be said in one way and written in another. This would create a misunderstanding and badly affect the revolutionary undertaking. [end recording]

Also, regarding the necessity of paying attention to different economic elements in the transitional period to socialism, many representatives agreed that the most important measure is to correct the mistakes of impatience while simultaneously pushing the economic development to contribute to lead the country out of its economic crisis in the years ahead.

At this congress, all opinions expressed stressed the regulations of natural law in the planning of economic strategy to build socialism and the national defense strategy in order to strongly protect socialism and the Vietnam socialist fatherland. Not only should the regulations of natural law be shown clearly in the political and economic strategy platform, but they should also be rendered practically in the party's resolutions and conveyed regularly in the state's policies.

After careful discussion and exchange of points of view of the party draft documents, the party congress of the General Staff Department of the Ministry of National Defense spent a lot of time providing opinions on the party building, which is a very important issue concerning the existence and development of the party, the regime, and the solidity of the national independence and freedom.

In his speech, Hoang Phuong, lieutenant general and doctor of philosophy candidate, stated:

[Begin recording] The party building task is essential and urgent at the moment. In order to perform this task well, in my opinion, it is necessary to find out the cause of weaknesses and mistakes in the party building task.

I agree with the main measures of party building mentioned in the draft report and I suggest organizing satisfactorily the teaching of Marxist-Leninism in order to build and enhance communist ideology for party members and cadres. That is a firm guarantee for the work of construction and protection of the fatherland, the socialist regime.

The task of building a strong party must be attached to the work of anticorruption. Only a strong party can fight corruption successfully, and vice versa. When the anticorruption work is performed well it will create essential and convenient conditions for renovation and purification of the party.

About the work of personnel organization, I think one of the important issues is the regulation of the staff offices at all levels, initially at the central level, in order to help the party committees with the implementation of policies and measures on cadre building to serve the renovation undertaking. Cadres in these offices need to be stable in politics, honest, knowledgeable, and able to perform well the work of personnel organization and to avoid the situation of incorrect evaluation, deployment, and promotion of cadres by some authoritative cadres. [end recording]

Major General Nguyen Dinh Uoc analyzed soundly five lessons mentioned in the party draft documents and stressed the unchanged rule in the party leadership over the administration while our party has been the ruling party in the whole nation.

The party congress of the General Staff Department of the Ministry of National Defense ended successfully after carrying out hard and responsible work. Comrade Lieutenant General Nguyen The Bon, on behalf of the presidium, concluded:

[Begin recording] The content of opinions expressed generally agreed with the documents. The opinions also further analyzed the current realistic situation and the mistakes and weaknesses. Those giving opinions assessed the evaluation of the current social situation and contributed points of view on national defense and security.

In conclusion, opinions provided to the draft documents concentrated on these issues:

1. Situation assessment: Most of the opinions concentrated on analyzing mistakes in management and directing in macromanagement. They also focused on practical instruction in the work of party and cadre building.

2. The congress provided practical opinions to the three documents: the political platform, the political report, and the report on party building. On the socioeconomic strategy, the congress contributed some opinions and clarified some targets [words indistinct]. Those opinions were recorded completely and are to be reported. The congress imposed upon the presidium and the party committee the responsibility to implement correctly the decisions concluded by the congress.

3. On national defense and security: The congress unanimously agreed that the national defense and security chapter should be rewritten. Special contents and contents on national defense which should be amended to the documents were put in writing by many comrades and sent to the secretary of the congress.

4. The congress spent a lot a time considering, preparing, and electing the representatives qualified to stand for the strategic staff of the Ministry of National Defense to attend the national military force congress. [end recording]

For more than four days at the first round party congress of the General Staff Department of the Ministry of National Defense, Senior General Doan Khue, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee, standing member of the Central Military Party Committee, deputy minister of national defense, and director of the General Staff Department directly instructed and listened attentively to every opinion of party members at the congress.

According to the general, the representatives' intellect and enthusiasm which had been shown at the congress was the valuable contribution representing the high responsibility of the party renovation process at the time of a fierce challenge for the nation and socialism. Their intellect and enthusiasm will be carried forward by the party committee's 20 excellent representatives to the national military force party congress in the coming days.

Ministry of Culture

BK1904060391 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 5 Apr 91

[Text] On 2-5 April, the Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports, and Tourism held its first round party organization congress. Attending the congress were more than 200 delegates from various sectors and branches representing thousands of party members.

Before attending the congress on 2 April, delegates visited the President Ho Chi Minh mausoleum. On the first day, the congress heard a report on the party's five draft documents presented by the secretary of the party organization of the ministry, and afterward delegates discussed various issues. On the second day, the congress listened to viewpoints expressed by delegates. On the last

day, the congress continued its discussions and elected delegates to the higher echelon party organization congress.

The congress has contributed many ideas to the party draft documents. Most of the delegates expressed views identical to the party documents. Some, however, suggested that appropriate policies should be formulated to strengthen the human resources, promote cultural and socioeconomic relations, and define ideological orientations and tasks for the next five years. Most of the delegates said that concrete measures should be taken to improve the people's cultural and spiritual life in localities throughout the country.

Confederation of Vietnamese Workers

BK1904083591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 12 Apr 91

[Text] The Confederation of Vietnamese Workers [CVW] on 10-12 April held its first round 19th party organization congress. During the past period, the CVW party organization organized an extensive political drive among its units and party chapters to contribute ideas to the party draft documents. As a result, cadres, party members, workers, and personnel of establishments have contributed more than 1,000 ideas to the party documents.

At the congress, many delegates said that it is necessary to have a platform on socialist construction at present. They also suggested that efforts should be made to assert the party leadership over our revolution and to reject pluralism and the multiparty system. Many delegates also contributed ideas to a number of issues mentioned in the political report. They expressed viewpoints on the formulation of socioeconomic policies for the days ahead, especially measures to consolidate the organization of mass societies to help them implement more effectively the renovation cause set forth by the party.

Vu Ban District

BK1904053391 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 28 Mar 91

[Text] On 21-23 March, Vu Ban District in Ha Nam Ninh Province held its first round 16th party organization congress with the participation of 180 delegates representing 5,285 party members from 66 party organizations and chapters.

Implementing the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Secretariat's directive, over the past four months, all basic party organizations and chapters of the district have made great efforts in studying, discussing, and contributing ideas to the draft party documents in a democratic fashion and with a high sense of responsibility.

Through their discussions, party members expressed 16,577 viewpoints and the people contributed 4,964 ideas to the party draft documents. At party organization

congresses at grass-roots and village levels, delegates concentrated their discussions on major objectives and issues. As a result, these congresses proceeded in a lively atmosphere where participants enthusiastically contributed their ideas to the party draft documents to speed up our country's socioeconomic stabilization and development program, thereby helping to firmly maintain political stability, social order, and safety.

With the spirit of unity and renovation, a frank and democratic atmosphere, and an open and serious attitude, the congress discussed various key issues which include the orientations for advancing toward socialism, the party leadership role, and the relations between party, state, and mass organizations. Particularly, many delegates contributed ideas to issues related to the economic component structures, the collective economy, family economy, and the right to use land. Many delegates suggested that the state should control only important economic activities and the production of key products, while assigning appropriate agencies to handle the rest.

Regarding the right to use land, many delegates expressed their identity of views on the party draft document, that is, to allocate land on a long-term basis to the peasants. Some suggested, however, that cooperative members are entitled to the right of succession and transfer of land, but many delegates objected to this idea saying that this would allow rich businessmen to resort to tricks to own land and hire poor peasants to till their land, thus creating the owner-employee classes in society.

Many delegates expressed their identity of views on efforts to develop the multicomponent commodity-based economy in which state-run and collective establishments take the major responsibility. Some suggested that the party and state must continue to attach importance to agricultural production and should formulate positive measures to encourage and develop agriculture.

[Begin recording of unidentified delegate] To strengthen state-run establishments and to promote their leading role in the national economy, it is necessary to take appropriate measures to grant sufficient authority to a number of key establishments to help them carry out tasks effectively. For example, in implementing the production of the grain and food program—one of the three socioeconomic development programs—we should take measures in a way that industry truly serves agriculture. We should strive to reduce the electricity fees for agriculture, improve irrigation, produce more fertilizer and insecticide, and improve the quality of land and seeds in a scientific way. I firmly believe that if we have correct policies we will be able to fulfill the grain production target of 30 million tonnes and make achievements in stabilizing and developing the results of our gross social production, thus improving the people's daily life and achieving gains for the national economy. We should rank agriculture development a priority task to bring our strength—in terms of land and manpower—

into full play. We should realize that agriculture is a lever to accelerate activities of other economic sectors to help stabilize our people's daily life and overcome the current socioeconomic crisis. To triumphantly carry out agricultural development, I suggest that the central government should formulate more appropriate policies to help peasants and to encourage industrial establishments to produce essential products to promptly serve agriculture and to reduce the volume of goods imported from foreign countries. Regarding the allocation of land to the peasants, I suggest that the central government allow them to use land for 10 to 15 years, which is sufficient to encourage the spirit of self-reliance in production. After this period, we will reallocate the land to suit the requirements of peasant households. Concerning the implementation of Resolution No. 10, I think that this has helped the peasants to develop a spirit of self-reliance in production, especially those who were provided with land for cultivation. However, some peasant households have not been provided with land to till, thus efforts should be made to regulate and improve the allocation of land to ensure justice, especially in the rural areas. Last but not least, I would like to mention here that if we grant peasants the right to succession and transfer of land, it will create difficulties for regulating and improving the people's daily life, particularly in the rural areas. [end recording]

The congress was crowned with success thanks to efforts by the district party committee. It is necessary to say that due to the district's careful preparations made in the spirit of renovation and the direction of broadening democracy, the congress attracted a large number of cadres, party members, and people to contribute ideas to the party documents, thus promoting a sense of responsibility to develop the country at present and to find measures to overcome economic difficulties to build a strong, prosperous nation.

The congress also discussed and adopted a program of revolutionary action of the party organization and people of the district for the days ahead.

Official on Efforts To Resolve Food Shortage

*BK1904065591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1000 GMT 9 Apr 91*

[From the Press Review]

[Text] QUAN DOI NHAN DAN today carries on page 3 its correspondent's interview with Comrade Nguyen Thien Luan, deputy minister of agriculture and food industry, on efforts by the government to resolve the food shortage problem.

Dealing with measures to resolve this issue during the past period, the deputy minister said the Council of Ministers chairman has issued a directive calling for efforts to plant more vegetables and subsidiary food crops, improve the distribution of grains to localities, create more jobs for the workers, and launch campaigns to help one another in localities. The directive also

stressed that state agencies should promptly provide help to the people after a careful study on the needs of each family. For those facing real difficulty, a loan—in grain—will be provided, while isolated persons will be given proper assistance. All the expenses in this regard will be borne by the local budget.

Since December 1990, the Council of Ministers has provided aid of 3.2 billion dong or the equivalent of 1,600 tonnes of rice, and a loan of 8 billion dong or the equivalent of 4,000 tonnes of rice to help the people prior to the Lunar New Year. On 2 April, the Ministry of Labor, War Invalids, and Social Welfare filed a report to the Council of Ministers asking for a loan of 10.6 billion dong or the equivalent of 5,300 tonnes of rice. This request will be considered and approved by the Council of Ministers very soon.

Government Approves 32 Foreign Investment Projects

*BK1904074991 Hong Kong AFP in English 0111 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Hanoi, April 18 (AFP)—Hanoi has approved 32 new foreign investment projects since the start of the year worth 370 million dollars, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

A spokesman said 337 million dollars came from foreign companies while the remainder was provided locally, as most of the projects were joint ventures. The projects were in the fields of light industry, fisheries, the hotel business and transport, the spokesman said, adding the main countries involved were the Soviet Union, Japan, France, Indonesia, Thailand, and the Netherlands.

Between 1988, when economic reforms were introduced, and the end of last year foreign investment in Vietnam has amounted to some 1.4 billion dollars.

Also Thursday the Vietnamese press announced that Hanoi expected to export 1.2 million tonnes of coal in 1991 to continue making inroads into Asian markets. The VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY (VNA) said the coal export company Coalimex had sold 704,000 tonnes last year against predictions of 1.2 million tonnes, adding that reaching this year's target "would not be easy."

VNA said Coalimex had succeeded since last year in obtaining new markets in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand. The main importers of Vietnamese coal are South Korea (264,400 tonnes in 1989), Japan (135,700 tonnes) and France (43,900 tonnes). Vietnam produces some six millions tonnes of coal each year, but the industry is plagued by numerous technical problems including poor infrastructure and outdated equipment.

Australia**Foreign Private Investment Said Down in 1990**

*BK1904123691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1150 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Canberra, April 19 (AFP)—Foreign private investment in Australia fell 25 per cent last year to 24.1 billion dollars (18.7 billion U.S.), the Foreign Investment Review Board reported Friday.

The board, which advises the government whether to approve individual investment proposals, said Japanese invested 8.4 billion dollars (6.5 billion U.S.) in Australia in the year ending June 30.

The second single biggest source of foreign investment was Britain, with 2.585 billion dollars.

More than half the Japanese investment, 4.536 billion dollars, was in real estate, with another 2.659 billion going to tourism.

The British on the other hand favoured mineral exploration and development, investing 1.186 billion in that sector.

The figures, in the board's annual report, showed a 25 per cent drop on 1988-89, when foreign private investment reached 32 billion dollars (24.5 billion U.S.).

Most of the investment, 16.7 billion dollars (12.9 billion U.S.) went on acquisitions, with 7.4 billion (5.73 billion U.S.) on development.

Acquisitions in real estate totalled 7.1 billion dollars, in manufacturing 2.9 billion, mining 2.3 billion, tourism 1.7 billion, and the non-tourist services sector 2.0 billion.

Development expenditure was broken down into tourism 2.0 billion, mining 400 million and resource processing 400 million.

The biggest proportion of spending in real estate went to Queensland, the state favoured by Japanese tourists and investors alike (4.3 billion dollars). Another 4.0 billion went to New South Wales, the most populous state in the country.

New Zealanders invested 1,853 million dollars in Australia, 927 million of it in manufacturing.

Investment from the United States came to 1,790 million Australian dollars, of which 775 million went into manufacturing and 433 million into services other than tourism.

Other major sources of foreign investment were Hong Kong (954 million dollars), Switzerland (411 million), Singapore (292 million), Canada (258 million), Germany (131 million) and Malaysia (107 million).

New Caledonia**Agency Says Land Reform Efforts Successful**

*BK1904104091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0909 GMT
19 Apr 91*

[Text] Noumea, April 19 (AFP)—New Caledonia's Agency for Rural Development and Land Reform (ARDLF) has successfully redistributed large areas of land in the Pacific Islands, the agency's director general said Friday.

Bruno Arbouet, speaking to reporters before leaving this French territory, said ARDLF had redistributed 53,580 hectares (132,343 acres) of land, of which 42,272 hectares (104,412 acres) went to native Melanesians.

The agency was set up under the Matignon Accords, which were introduced following disturbances by Melanesians demanding independence from France.

Mr. Arbouet said the agency had "taken the heat out of arguments about land" and "provided concrete and consensual solutions" to the problems.

But he warned that many people in the islands still took a passive role in development and suggested it might be necessary to develop projects better suited to local conditions than those drawn up by Europeans.

"Whatever problems exist in the countryside, it is in and around Noumea that major risks for the future of the territory are concentrated, because of social divisions, massive alienation of young people and delinquency," Mr. Arbouet said.

"We have all the conditions for an explosion like the events in Reunion," he said, referring to recent riots in the French Indian Ocean island.

Meanwhile, New Caledonia's two main political groups announced Friday they were to start their party congresses April 27.

The Rally for Caledonia in the republic, which favors maintaining the status of a French overseas territory, will begin its meeting April 27 and is expected to re-elect its President Jacques Lafleur to another term as party leader.

The pro-independence Kanak Socialist Liberation Front also said it would hold a two-day congress from April 27 in Koinde in the centre of New Caledonia.

A spokesman for the front said it would assess the progress of the movement and elect a new president and Politburo during the congress.

Papua New Guinea

Proposal To Introduce Death Penalty Condemned

*BK1804080491 Melbourne Overseas Service
in English 0500 GMT 18 Apr 91*

[Text] The Catholic Bishops of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands have condemned the proposal by the Port Moresby Government to introduce the death penalty for serious crimes.

A statement issued following the bishops' annual conference in (?Mendi) in the Highlands said capital punishment would do more harm than outbreaks of crime and

violence. The statement said the death penalty would destroy people's sensitivity to their regard for the right to life. As part of its crackdown on crime, the government has applied the death penalty for murder and pack rape.

The Catholic bishops also express concern about another government proposal to use Gurkha soldiers in a National Guard to train Papua New Guinea's youth in discipline. They said personnel to run the National Service Scheme should come from within Papua New Guinea. The Bishops also questioned the effect of a National Guard on the established Police and Defense Forces.